

Wave of prosecutions will follow

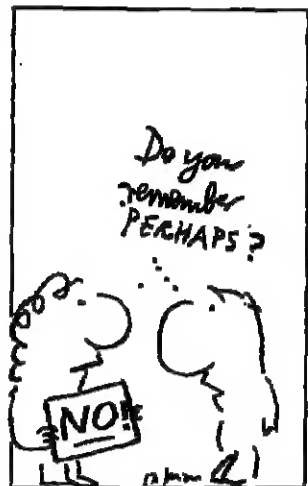
## Marital rape ruled illegal by law lords

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

A FLURRY of prosecutions is expected after a House of Lords ruling yesterday that men can be found guilty of raping their wives. A new act of parliament to enshrine the principle is also likely. Five law lords unanimously swept away the 250-year-old notion that women agree to sexual intercourse on marriage and cannot retract their consent. Modern marriage was a partnership of equals, not one in which the wife was the subservient chattel of the husband, they said.

At least a dozen cases held in the pipeline pending the ruling will now go ahead, and a wife's right to say "no" will probably be reinforced by new legislation after the government receives the Law Commission's final report on the subject. The commission has recommended that rape in marriage be a crime.

Yesterday's judgment, in the case of a Leicester man jailed for three years for assault and attempted rape against his estranged wife, laid to rest the principle established by Chief Justice Hale in 1736 that by marriage, a woman gave her body and irrevocable consent to sexual intercourse with her husband



under all circumstances. Lord Keith of Kinkel, the senior law lord, rejected that as anachronistic and offensive, borrowing a phrase used by the Lord Chief Justice in the Court of Appeal in March. Lord Lane had then declared that "a rapist remains a rapist and is subject to the criminal law, irrespective of his relationship with his victim".

Upholding his ruling, Lord Keith said the common law could change and evolve in the light of social, economic and cultural developments. Hale's proposition had reflected the state of affairs in his time, but since then, the status of women, and particularly married women, had changed out of all recognition. "Marriage in modern times is regarded as a partnership of equals and no longer one in which the wife must be the subservient chattel of the husband."

Lord Keith, with lords Brandon, Griffiths, Ackner and Lowry agreeing, said this would not mean the creation of a new offence, but the removal of a "common law fiction which has become anachronistic and offensive".

The ruling was greeted by uproar in the public gallery of the House of Lords, and some cheering supporters of Women Against Rape were evicted. Claire Glasman, the group's spokeswoman, said afterwards: "This is a fantastic day for women everywhere. The law lords have finally nailed a legal lie which has

somehow survived for nearly three centuries. This is really a step towards making it clear legally that women have the right to say 'no' to sex, even if they are married. It overturns 250 years of legal sexual slavery which has been based not on a court case but on an 18th century judge's decision that a husband could not rape his wife."

John Patten the Home Office minister also welcomed the judgment. "I strongly feel that a rapist is a rapist, whether he is married to his victim or not. The law needed to be clarified and today's decision has done that. I asked the Law Commission last year to look at what needed to be done, if anything, by Parliament. I look forward to their final report as soon as possible."

Jo Richardson, Labour's spokeswoman on women's affairs, said she was delighted by the ruling and promised that a Labour government would introduce a law to confirm the position. "It's fine and very welcome to have case law like this," she said. "But it still leaves it to the whim of the court and the whim of the judges. We need to make women feel secure and know that if they take a case they have got a reasonable chance of getting through with it."

The verdict was also welcomed by Roger Daw, senior policy lawyer for the Crown Prosecution Service, which started the ball rolling in 1989 with a policy decision to test whether Chief Justice Hale's proposition still applied. "We are pleased that the House of Lords has clarified the law in this difficult area," he said.

Until recently, the accepted law had been that rape within marriage was committed only where the couple were legally separated or a non-molestation order was in force. But Mr Justice Owen, the trial judge in the Leicester case, held that a wife who had left her husband had the right to refuse intercourse.

Now the old principle has been overruled by 11 judges all men - that right is likely to apply to all women, including those still living with their husbands.

Right to say 'no', page 3  
Law Report, page 34

## Shadow cabinet poll rewards Cook's role

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

ROBIN Cook, spearhead of Labour's relentless campaign against the government over the health service, was given a big endorsement by Labour MPs yesterday in the final election to the shadow cabinet before the general election.

The shadow health secretary moved up to second place in the annual popularity contest, securing 24 more votes than last year. He finished ahead of John Smith, the shadow chancellor, who dropped from first to third place, and behind Gordon Brown, the shadow trade secretary, who topped the poll after what Labour MPs regarded as another effective year. Another big success was

scored by Ann Clwyd, who became the top woman, in fourth place, after a strong performance this year in her role as overseas development spokesman. She would be one of four women members of Neil Kinnock's first cabinet if Labour were elected. The others are Margaret Becker, Ann Taylor and Jo Richardson. Under party rules all 18 elected members have to be given a seat in the first cabinet.

After the same 18 members had been re-elected to lead Labour into the election, Mr Kinnock decided against any changes in the posts they hold.

Rebel's rise, page 7  
Leading article, page 19

## Why fast food comes a lot slower in Mexico

By PETER VICTOR

AS you ponder your burdened lot, working to pay for a new dishwasher, car or smart designer outfit, spare a thought for your counterpart in Mexico, who will have to work ten times as long for the same goods.

Kitting out a home with a refrigerator, frying pan, electric sewing machine, colour television, electric iron, vacuum cleaner, hair dryer and camera would take just over three weeks' of toil for a worker in London. In Mexico City, a new year resolution to save up for the goods would not be fulfilled until the year was almost out.

Figures detailing the relative fortunes of workers of the world are published in the latest edition of the Union Bank of Switzerland's *Pricings and Earnings Around the Globe*. The report compares purchasing power in 48 cities, illustrat-

ing income levels and the costs of goods and services.

A decent business suit, blazer, jeans, shirt, socks and shoes will set you back £421 in London, while in Lagos, Nigeria, you can expect to pay the equivalent of £111. There, however, the average company department manager takes home £1,929 a year and would be working for nearly 2½ months to pay his tailor's bill. In London the same manager nets £15,263 and could settle up in less than a fortnight.

Before Londoners become smug, however, they should reflect on the fact that, adjusted for the number of hours worked, employees in Zurich, Geneva, Copenhagen, Oslo and Helsinki earn 80 per cent to 135 per cent more than their counterparts in the cities surveyed by UBS: £49,356 for the departmental manager.

Perhaps the most prosaic illustration in the study shows that the average Mexican would have to work for nearly four hours to buy a McDonald's Big Mac with French fries - a repast within half an hour's labour for the average working Londoner. The burger as economic indicator gets around the problem of varying consumer habits which arises when comparing purchasing power on an entire basket of goods.

The study reveals that Sydney and Chicago have the shortest working times for a Big Mac at 18 minutes each. Los Angeles and Toronto workers have to work for 20 minutes, as do those in Zurich and Luxembourg.

Mexican workers have to put in 2 hours and 55 minutes and their colleagues in Manila only ten minutes less. More than two hours is required in Bombay and Lagos.

Working time necessary to buy a hamburger

City	1 hamburger in minutes
Amsterdam	31
Bogotá	98
Bombay	131
Buenos Aires	105
Chicago	18
Dublin	28
Johannesburg	35
Lagos	130
London	36
Los Angeles	20
Mexico City	235
Nairobi	82
New York	26
Paris	39
Sao Paulo	106
Singapore	70
Sydney	18
Tokyo	21
Zurich	20

\* Big Mac and large portion of French fries.  
Source: Union Bank of Switzerland

## Germany plans joint missions with Britain in Soviet republics

By MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

BRITAIN and Germany are planning to set up joint diplomatic missions in the independent Soviet republics as a first step towards pooling much of their embassy work abroad.

Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, will discuss the proposal with Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the German foreign minister, in Leipzig next week when the two countries will exchange information on the collapse of the Soviet Union. This will be the first such detailed discussion of a third country that the Foreign Office has held with a European Community partner.

The proposals envisage Britain and Germany sharing the same buildings, embassy services, infrastructure and possibly consular staff in each of the new independent republics. They would also pool political analyses, sending joint dispatches to London and Bonn. Commercial divisions would probably remain separate, however, as British and German companies might be in competition for contracts.

The proposals are a radical development of EC plans to co-ordinate and, if possible, to unify diplomatic representation overseas. So far these plans propose that EC embassies consult each other regularly, offer consular help to the citizens of EC nations that do not have embassies in the countries concerned, and try to co-ordinate initiatives and démarches.

Britain believes it will be easier to co-ordinate diplomatic work with Germany than with any other EC nation - partly because the two foreign services are similarly structured and have no constitutional difficulties with joint representation. France, on the other hand, forbids the president of the republic to be represented abroad by anyone other than a French citizen.

The proposal is the kind of concrete step towards a common policy that Britain believes must precede more ambitious decisions to pool foreign policy-making. Ironically, Britain is likely to move faster than France on this issue, although France and Germany strongly support a common EC foreign policy.

There will be a flurry of top-level consultations next week. Mr Hurd and Herr Genscher

will meet at the Western European Union on Tuesday and fly to Leipzig the next day. John Major will go to Bonn on Friday for talks with Helmut Kohl, the chancellor.

Mr Hurd and Herr Genscher will summon their two ambassadors and consuls-general in Moscow to the Leipzig conference. Both countries are pessimistic about the downward spiral in the Soviet Union, though they differ over how much aid should be given for the winter and in long-term assistance. Both believe that individual Soviet republics will play a greater political role, and want to cultivate links with the republics' leaders while co-ordinating technical help.

Britain would gain much from a joint initiative with Bonn. Germany has consulates in Kiev and St Petersburg and is setting up trade missions, but Britain has no money for any full mission outside Moscow.

## EC stakes raised by Delors

From GEORGE BROCK IN STRASBOURG

JACQUES Delors raised the stakes in the European Community's troubled political union talks yesterday when he said that changing the way the community's joint foreign policy is decided will be the crux of the treaty. Britain strongly opposes the changes he advocates.

M Delors, president of the EC's policy-making commission, told the European parliament that the EC must commit itself to closer common action in foreign policy. EC leaders are due to complete the treaty at a summit in Maastricht in seven weeks.

M Delors, supported by President Mitterrand of France and Helmut Kohl, the chancellor of Germany, emphasised that the test of the EC's will to act together will be its willingness to use majority voting for some foreign policy decisions. EC common foreign policies are decided unanimously. "The crux is the

Continued on page 24, col 6



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12 pages of top jobs in today's appointments section, circulated in Britain



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# CID officer 'linked with drug offender'

By JAMIE DETTMER

A POLICE inspector with a commendation faces a disciplinary hearing over complaints that he associated with a known criminal.

The complaints follow Detective Inspector Donald Middleton's contact with a man who had a string of minor convictions and has been arrested twice in connection with a designer drug.

Mr Middleton, a CID officer at Paddington Green police station, northwest London, has been on sick leave since a complaint was made against him last year by a sergeant attached to the Metropolitan Police's North-West Territorial Support Group.

Mr Middleton has claimed that he followed internal guidelines and reported his friendship with Simon Turner, the son of the former vice-president of Chelsea football club, and who had a series of drug related convictions, after Turner's arrest on a cannabis charge in Scotland.

It is understood that Mr Middleton's senior officers are disputing his claim but at no time has it been suggested that he might have had anything to do with Turner's drug activities.

Simon Turner, aged 33, has been convicted on nine occasions in the past 14 years for possessing or importing controlled drugs. He was once arrested in Bangkok in possession of more than 20kg of cannabis.

In December 1989, Turner

was arrested while attempting to pass cannabis resin to an inmate at a detention centre in Alloa, Scotland. In a search of Turner's car afterwards, officers found a small quantity of LSD and a capsule containing ice, the so-called designer drug. He was fined £2,000. In March 1990, in Operation Doppelgänger, officers from the North-West TSG raided Turner's home in Belsize Park, northwest London. A small quantity of ice was discovered.

Ice, which is being seen as a successor to crack, has been recovered by police on only about four occasions.

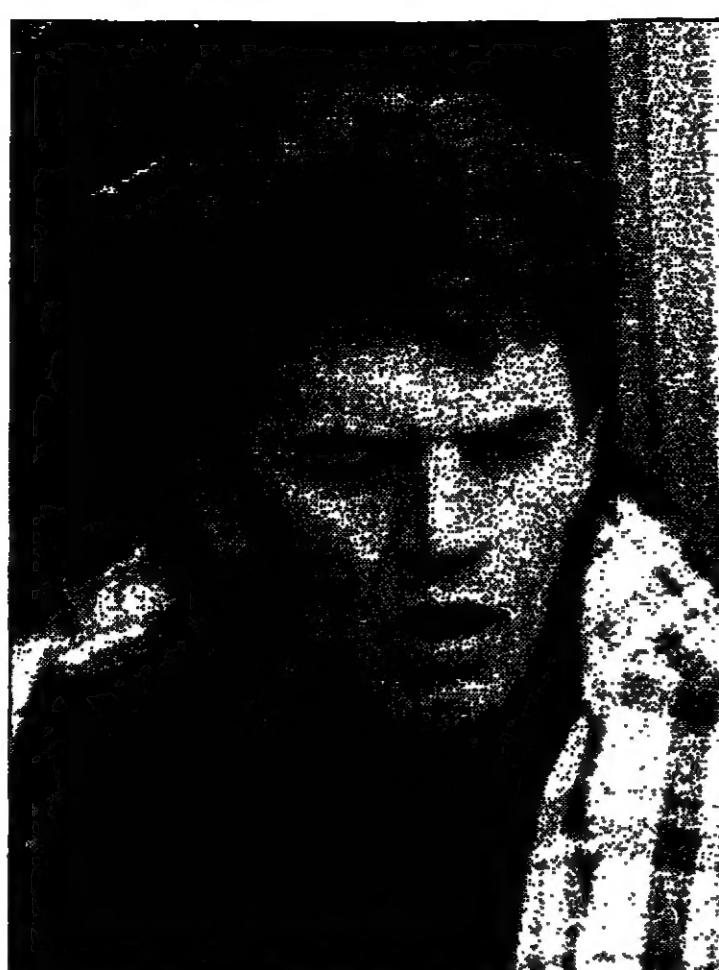
The disciplinary complaint faced by Mr Middleton, who received a police commendation for leadership three years ago, include one accusing him of seeing Turner while he was on bail.

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In December 1989, Turner



Friend in the force: Simon Turner, who has several drug related convictions, and, right, his home in Belsize Park



## Suspect figure among police fans on terrace

FEW soccer fans at Aberdeen's Pittodrie stadium would have given the group of policemen a second glance. They were clearly off-duty, out to enjoy Scottish premier league football, on a visit they made half-a-dozen times each season (Jamie Dettmer writes).

But what later struck others as odd was that the group included a man with a string of minor drug offences and another who was regarded

with suspicion by other sections of the police force.

The group of police fans changed over the six years it went to Aberdeen, numbering from a dozen to nearly 30. Sometimes senior officers, up to chief superintendent, attended. Retired detectives were also in the group, as was Simon Turner, a man with convictions from 1977 to 1982 for theft, and possession and importation of drugs.

Detective Inspector Norman Middleton, who comes from Fife, set up the informal Aberdeen football supporters club in the mid-eighties. He was introduced to Turner in 1984 by a Chelsea footballer.

Turner, the son of Chelsea's former vice-chairman, Teddy Turner, attended Aberdeen games with the London policemen for some years. For some of this period, Turner was under investigation by Scottish officers, according to police sources. The disciplinary complaints that Mr Middleton faces arise from the officer's contact with Turner after Turner's arrest in Scotland in December 1989.

Turner attempted to pass cannabis to a detention centre inmate. Mr Middleton saw Turner twice after his arrest, though Turner was on bail. The officer categorically states he did not know that Turner was on bail. He has told detectives at Scotland Yard's Com-

plaints Investigation Bureau he believed Turner's case had been dealt with and that he sought permission for any meetings. He is strenuously resisting the disciplinary action and says that he thought Turner was a reformed addict.

The Times has learnt that after Turner's arrest in London in March 1990, Mr Middleton obtained tickets from Turner for the Zenith cup final for other officers, who paid for the tickets.

## British lag in league of car owners

BRITAIN has fewer cars per capita than Germany, France or Italy, according to a new survey (Matthew d'Ancona writes).

For every car on the roads, there are 2.5 people in Britain, the average ratio in the European Community. But Britain lags behind its main European partners as a nation of motorists: the number of people per vehicle is 2.4 in France, 2.0 in Germany, and 2.1 in Italy.

The new statistics appear in the 1991 edition of *Motor Industry of Great Britain* compiled by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders. The USA remains the world's foremost automotive society with 1.5 people per car.

Country	Persons per car
USA	1.5
Canada	1.9
Germany West	2.0
Italy	2.1
Luxembourg	2.1
Australia	2.2
New Zealand	2.2
Switzerland	2.2
Belgium	2.4
France	2.4
UK	2.5
Denmark	2.5
The Netherlands	2.7
Spain	3.3
Japan	3.5
Irish Republic	4.4
Greece	6.5
Portugal	6.5
South Africa	10.0
Soviet Union	17.2
India	321.0
Cuba	550.0
Uganda	1424.6
Burma	1460.0
Bangladesh	2950.0

## Enquiry to examine killings by patients

By QUENTIN COWDRY  
HOME AFFAIRS  
CORRESPONDENT

AN OFFICIAL enquiry is to be conducted into killings committed by discharged psychiatric patients amid renewed ministerial concern about the safety of guidelines governing the release of patients from mental hospitals.

The investigation, largely prompted by the recent furore about the killing of a young girl in Doncaster by a psychotic woman, will be carried out privately by the Royal College of Psychiatrists at the request of the health department, but findings will be published.

The college is shortly to publish new advice to health authorities about how and when psychiatric patients should be released into the community. Ministers, however, have opted for what one departmental official described as a "belt and braces approach" as a result of new disclosures about the killing in April of Emma Brodie, aged 11.

Emma was stabbed to death in a shopping arcade by Carol Barratt, aged 24, just two days after the woman had been discharged from the psychiatric unit of Doncaster royal infirmary. Earlier this month Trent regional health authority declared that the consultant psychiatrist who had released Barratt had made a "serious error of clinical judgement".

Announcing the enquiry, Stephen Dorrell, under secretary for health, said it was impossible to devise completely fool-proof discharge rules, but he maintained that politicians and health professionals had a moral duty to ensure that the system was as perfect as it could be.

"We must be prepared to look the families of any future victims direct in the eye and say that we did all we could to avoid their bereavement," he said.

Addressing a conference in London on the impact of the environment on mental health, the minister said that it was vital to examine "every detail" of the past management of mental patients who had killed or seriously injured people after being released from hospital.

He added: "One such incident is too many. But if a repeat incident occurs because the lessons of the first have not been learnt, we are all culpable."

## Health U-turn

William Waldegrave yesterday backtracked on his suggestion that tax relief on private health insurance for the elderly might be withdrawn in the next budget. The health secretary told a press conference during the Tory campaign in the Lambeth by-election that the relief would have to operate for a number of years before a judgment could be made.

Lambeth contest, page 7

## GP's admission

Dr Ailana Houston, who is being sued for slander by her former partner, admitted in the High Court that she could not prove he had brushed up against her or touched her breasts. She is being sued by Dr Malcolm Smith, who shares her surgery at East Hunsbury, Northampton, over incidents when she told him before patients and staff to stop touching her body. The judge sums up today.

## Cookson ill

Catherine Cookson, aged 85, the best-selling author, was in hospital in Newcastle upon Tyne last night suffering from a heart complaint. She is in the cardiac care unit of the Freeman hospital, where she was taken on Tuesday with a heartbeat irregularity. A hospital spokesman said that Mrs Cookson was responding to treatment and that her condition was not causing concern.

## The bees seized

Police are to confiscate more than 12,000 hives and their millions of bees and have been illegally placed on the North Yorkshire moors by beekeepers from the South. Forestry Commission and National Park chiefs said that many beekeepers were travelling 200 miles to leave hives on the moors around Scarborough because of the fine quality of honey the heather produces.

The three officers who were arrested at the time of the seizure of the hives are: Detective Sergeant John Donohue, Detective Sergeant David Smith, and Detective Sergeant John Donohue. No officers have been charged as a result of the seizure.

## Author of spy allegations will contest legal action

By LIN JENKINS

THE author and publishers of the book that alleges links between Robert Maxwell, publisher of the *Daily Mirror*, and the Israeli intelligence service, said yesterday that they would contest legal action taken against them.

Seymour Hersh, the American author of *The Samson Option*, which was cited in Commons motions on Tuesday, left New York last night to hold a press conference in London today. Before leaving he said: "I have evidence to support what is said. I can assure you I understand the British libel laws and the inherent problems. Nobody went into this lightly."

Faber & Faber, the publishers, disclosed yesterday the elaborate steps taken to prevent an injunction stopping the book reaching the shops. Copies of the 25,000 initial print run were delivered by hand on Sunday to a number of people including some MPs, and released for sale on Monday at 10am.

The trade and industry department yesterday said no enquiry had been launched into the claims, made by two MPs under cover of Commons parliamentary privilege, that Nick Davies, foreign editor of the *Daily Mirror*, had been involved in sales of Israeli arms to Iran and other countries over several years up to 1989.

The department said that an investigation would begin only if evidence were received. "Allegations have been made in parliament, but what is

written in a book does not constitute evidence. If anyone produces evidence to us we will look at it."

Robert Maxwell, speaking on BBC radio, said he had links with Mossad, the Israeli intelligence service. He said: "Certainly not. It is outrageous that you should use this. I will hang up and stop this interview unless you stop spreading these libels." Mirror Group Newspapers yesterday issued a writ on behalf of the group, Mr Maxwell and Mr Davies, which was received by solicitors acting for Faber & Faber. The publishers said that no injunction had been received preventing the distribution of the book.

George Galloway, Labour MP for Glasgow Hillhead, who received details of the book and a number of documents from a journalist contact in America, said he would hand over the information to the DTI only if Mr Maxwell ignored his plea to set up an independent tribunal.

Mr Davies has categorically denied working for Mossad but admitted knowing Ari Ben-Menashe, an Israeli citizen, and source of the allegations, named on Monday in the Commons.

He conceded that he had "naively" allowed him to use his address, but denied the description in Mr Galloway's motion that he was a "long standing and highly paid Israeli intelligence asset" and that "he betrayed the whereabouts in a hotel in London of Mordechai Vanunu to Mossad, whereupon Vanunu was lured out of Britain to Italy, was kidnapped, drugged and returned to Israel where he is currently serving a lengthy prison sentence in solitary confinement".

The case continues today.

## Ellis denies knowing of bomb campaign

DESMOND Ellis, who admits helping the IRA to make bombs, told a jury yesterday that he had no knowledge of any bombing campaign in England in the early 1980s.

He said that he was opposed to attacks on mainland Britain because they were counter-productive.

Mr Ellis, aged 39, from Finglas, Dublin, denies at the Central Criminal Court conspiring with others to cause explosions likely to endanger life or cause serious damage to property in the UK between January 1, 1981, and October 27, 1983.

Mr Ellis said he had no knowledge of any planned IRA bombing campaign in England when arrested in Dublin. He was told the devices he handled and worked on in Dublin were

destined for Northern Ireland.

However, he did work for the IRA in Dublin in 1980, where he was arrested and jailed for eight years for his activities. Geoffrey Robertson, QC, for the defence, said: "There was no direct link between any of the explosions in London and anything which Ellis had allegedly touched."

The prosecution alleges that although Ellis never set foot on the mainland, his fingerprints were found on devices discovered in a cache near Pangbourne, Berkshire.

The cache had clear links with events in London in October and November 1981, when four bombs exploded and one was made safe, says the prosecution.

The case continues today.

## Festival launches into 1992

By KERRY GILL

WITH almost unprecedented speed, Brian McMaster, who took up his post as director of the Edinburgh festival three weeks ago, yesterday announced his preliminary programme for events in 1992.

There will be four main themes, a retrospective of the music of Tchaikovsky, the works of the playwrights Harley Granville Barker and C.P. Taylor and a series of concerts featuring Scottish music from the 16th to 20th centuries. The festival will open with a concert performance of Schoenberg's *Moses and Aaron*.

Mr McMaster, who came from Welsh National Opera, said: "Some people said when I was offered this job

that it would all be opera, opera and opera. It was a secret, personal ambition not to have any opera, but actually there will be... we started planning the day after the last festival."

He has inherited a deficit of £220,000 due largely to a fall-off in ticket sales as tourists stayed away after the Gulf war. He said, however, that the festival hoped to increase its budget in 1992 to more than £4 million. To help to increase ticket sales from this year's 62.5 per cent, Mr McMaster has brought in Joanna Baker, presently head of marketing and press at the Welsh National Opera.

A wide range of Tchaikovsky's music will be performed, from his first piano concerto to the rarely performed opera *The Oprichnik*. Five concerts of Scottish music will cover each of the centuries.

Mr McMaster said that the work of Granville Barker, born in 1877, had been given little airing recently, and the festival performances would give the public a chance to reassess his work. Productions include *The Voyage Inheritance* and *Madras House*.

The works of C.P. Taylor, the son of a Jewish couple from the Glasgow Gorbals, will hold special significance for the festival as some of his 70 plays were performed at the Traverse theatre in Edinburgh.

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## Judge to be v after

THE JUDGE who presided over the trial of the man who shot and killed a woman in a London shopping centre, is to be visited by the woman's family after her death.

## Killing of raider w

A FURTHER inquiry is to be conducted into the killing of a woman in a London shopping centre, after the judge who presided over the trial of the man who shot and killed her, is to be visited by the woman's family after her death.

The judge, who presided over the trial of the man who shot and killed a woman in a London shopping centre, is to be visited by the woman's family after her death. The judge, who presided over the trial of the man who shot and killed a woman in a London shopping centre, is to be visited by the woman's family after her death.

## DPP wins plea over detectives

THE PROSECUTOR GENERAL has won a plea over the actions of detectives in the case of a woman who was killed in a London shopping centre.

The judge, who presided over the trial of the man who shot and killed a woman in a London shopping centre, is to be visited by the woman's family after her death. The judge, who presided over the trial of the man who shot and killed a woman in a London shopping centre, is to be visited by the woman's family after her death.

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## Fashion assistant sentenced

## Judge frees mother to be with sick baby after day in jail

By RAY CLANCY

SUZANNAH Jackson, the former personal assistant to Linda Clerach, the fashion designer, was yesterday sent to jail for nine months for stealing clothes and cash totalling £25,000 from her employer, but hours later she was freed after being granted bail by a High Court judge.

Jackson, aged 31, was jailed for a total of 18 months, nine of which were suspended, by Southwark crown court, south London. Her lawyer immediately applied for bail pending an appeal against conviction and sentence.

She was reunited last night with her daughter Isabella, aged three months, after spending most of the day behind bars at Holloway prison, north London. Earlier

she had been led to the cells weeping because she was worried about being separated from her daughter who was born prematurely and still suffers bouts of illness. Six hours later Mr Justice Brooke granted Jackson unconditional bail.

"She is obviously relieved that she will not be separated from her daughter. She is overwhelmed by the result," a spokeswoman for Jackson's lawyers said. Michael Fisher, her lawyer, had said after his client was sentenced that the judge had been harsh.

Last night criminal law experts said that the decision to grant Jackson bail was unusual but not unheard of. Her lawyers would have argued that separation from her

baby represented a strong reason for granting bail and would also have indicated to the judge in chambers that they had good grounds for an appeal.

Jackson knew when she appeared in court yesterday that she was likely to be sent to jail as Judge Anwyl-Davies, QC, had told her two weeks ago when she was found guilty of nine charges of theft from Miss Clerach's company that he was considering a custodial sentence.

In an interview with *The Times* Jackson said that her greatest nightmare was being separated from Isabella. "I am a nursing mother. Isabella is 11 weeks old and unwell. Surely everything possible should be done before separating a child and a mother or sending them both to prison," she said.

When she sat in the dock listening to the judge who described her as being guilty of a "disgraceful and mean betrayal of trust", she looked distraught.

Jackson wept as the judge told her: "It is sad to see a person of your intelligence and acumen in the position in which you are today - your reputation for honesty gone forever and gone through the shameful betrayal of your employer's trust and confidence in you."

Two weeks ago the jury that found Jackson guilty heard that she had used blank cheques signed by her employer before she went on holiday to buy a car worth £2,500 and to pay more than £1,200 towards her rent on a flat. She had also taken clothes worth £15,000.

Jackson had hoped to be made managing director of the firm, which has since gone into voluntary liquidation. But her world collapsed when Miss Clerach did not approve of her new boyfriend.

Yesterday Sheldagh Davies, Jackson's counsel, pleaded with the judge to be lenient. She said that Jackson had not been a "professional, considered or premeditated thief", and that she had not tried hard to hide what she had done.

She said that Jackson had hoped to fly home to her family in Australia to start a new life if all her sentence had been suspended.

## Killing of armed raider was lawful

By RICHARD DUCE

A FATHER publicly forgave the man who shot dead his son during an armed raid after a coroner said yesterday that the killing had been lawful.

Colin Budd, aged 19, who friends said had idolised the Kray twins and spoke of "going out in a blaze of glory" was killed by Peter Lamb, a gun shop manager, when, carrying a gun, he tried to rob the store in Colchester, Essex, last August.

After the inquest David Budd grasped Mr Lamb's hand and urged him not to blame himself for his son's death. Mr Lamb, aged 42, said: "I have nightmares about it every day. It means a lot to me to know his family don't blame me."

The Colchester inquest was told that Budd, who had previous convictions for armed robbery, brandished a sawn-off shotgun as he entered the shop and demanded cash and the keys to a gun cabinet. He pointed the gun towards the head of Mr Lamb's employer, Richard Ward, and threatened to kill him and a customer Robert Burrell.

Mr Lamb, a clay pigeon shooting expert, picked up a loaded .38 revolver from behind the counter and shot Budd through the chest, kill-

ing him instantly. Mr Lamb, of Dedham, near Colchester, said: "I told him again and again not to shoot but he kept shouting and threatening to kill us all. He was very agitated. I picked up the revolver and cocked it. Then he heard me click the revolver and said 'What was that?' As he turned to point the gun at me I shot him and that was it."

Dr Malcolm Weir, the coroner, said: "Under the Criminal Law Act of 1967 a person may use reasonable force for self-defence or the defence of another. Peter Lamb was in no doubt that he and Mr Ward were in personal danger and firing the gun was the only way out."

Detective Inspector Richard Block said that the shotgun used by Budd, of Colchester, could not be fired. "However, I have come to the conclusion that Peter Lamb shot Budd because it was the only way he saw to save his and his boss's life," he said.

Last week John Burrow, Essex chief constable, revoked Mr Ward's registration as a firearms dealer because it was illegal to keep a loaded firearm behind the counter. Mr Ward has 21 days to appeal.

## Wood, the fuel of the 21st century

By NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

OFFICIALS and ministers at the energy department have identified a promising new fuel for the 21st century.

Forget the awesome but elusive power of nuclear fusion, expensive electricity bargains and pricey solar cells. Wood is ready to make a comeback, helping to meet Britain's energy bill without harming the environment.

Indeed so impressed is the energy department with the potential of wood that Colin Moynihan, minister responsible for renewables, yesterday announced plans for up to £12 million funding at a three-day conference in

produce 20 per cent of its electricity needs from wood by the year 2000.

Experts believe wood could be fuelling farms, factories and homes by the end of the decade, using wood-burning boilers or grid-connected power stations built to burn wood.

"The technicalities of combustion are covered. Now we need to get the economics right," Paul Marvan, of the Energy Technology Support Unit, Harwell, the government's advisers, said.

Under the energy department's plans five farms in the south of England will be chosen as pilot sites for the growing and coppicing of poplars and willows for fuel. Coppicing, the ancient forestry cultivation technique, is seen as the biggest source of wood fuel able to produce the equivalent of six million tonnes of oil by the end of the decade.

The five farms, which in April 1992 will be able to qualify for funds under the Forestry Commission's woodlands grant scheme, will then become training centres for other farms.

The European Community, anxious to see meat mountains cut, is paying farmers to set aside arable land or to grow alternative crops that could be used for energy. By the end of the decade up to one million hectares of arable farmland could be surplus. The Forestry Commission and the Countryside Commission are reclaiming land around Britain's towns and cities for new forests.

Officials involved in the Forest of Merica scheme, a 20,000-hectare new forest in the West Midlands, have already indicated that some of the wood grown might be harvested for wood-into-energy schemes.



Moynihan: potential for saving £700m a year

Bristol dedicated to this remarkable fuel. Mr Moynihan said the energy implications of wood were considerable, and could save nearly seven million tonnes of oil a year or about £700 million.

The announcement of significant funds signals the government's conclusion that, after a decade of research into new methods of harvesting forestry wastes, boilers and other combustion systems and coppicing schemes, wood is ready to make its mark. It echoes the conclusions of countries elsewhere, with Sweden recently unveiling plans to



Inside story: Dame Ninette de Valois, founder of the Royal Ballet, leaves the Royal Opera House in London yesterday with Wayne Sleep, the dancer, after a briefing on the musicians' dispute that has halted performances. Leading article, page 19

## Court upholds the right of wives to say no

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

THE marital rape judgment yesterday laid to rest the principle established by Chief Justice Hale in 1736. It is likely to be cited as the basis for prosecutions by the thousands of women who have suffered without recourse to the law.

In the ruling Lord Keith of Kinkel, the senior law lord, rejected the 250-year-old principle that a woman gave her body and irrevocable consent to sexual intercourse with her husband under all circumstances. He said it was anachronistic and offensive: that marriage in modern times was a partnership of equals and not one in which the wife was the subservient chattel of the husband.

Marital rape is not the rare event that some allege; the Middlesex Centre for Criminology has said that its nationwide survey of 1,000 women has shown that as many as one in seven claim to have been forced by husbands to submit to sexual intercourse against their will.

The Law Commission has brought out a working paper recommending that rape in marriage becomes a criminal offence and also that wives who accuse their husbands of rape should be compelled to give evidence against them. Its final report, taking account of yesterday's ruling and evidence it has received, is expected in the new year.

The law lords' ruling is the result of an initiative by the Crown Prosecution Service

(CPS) which started a group of prosecutions alleging rape within marriage. The CPS decided to prosecute the cases as they were "at the margins of what was previously understood as the limit of the exemptions to marital rape prosecution." Under these exemptions, husbands lost immunity from rape charges if a couple was legally separated or a court order was in force prohibiting the husband from molesting the wife.

In the Leicester case which reached the Lords yesterday, new ground was being tested because there was no legal separation or court order. The trial judge, Mr Justice Owen, convicted the man. But confusion over the true state of the law remained: in other cases, two other High Court judges reached different conclusions.

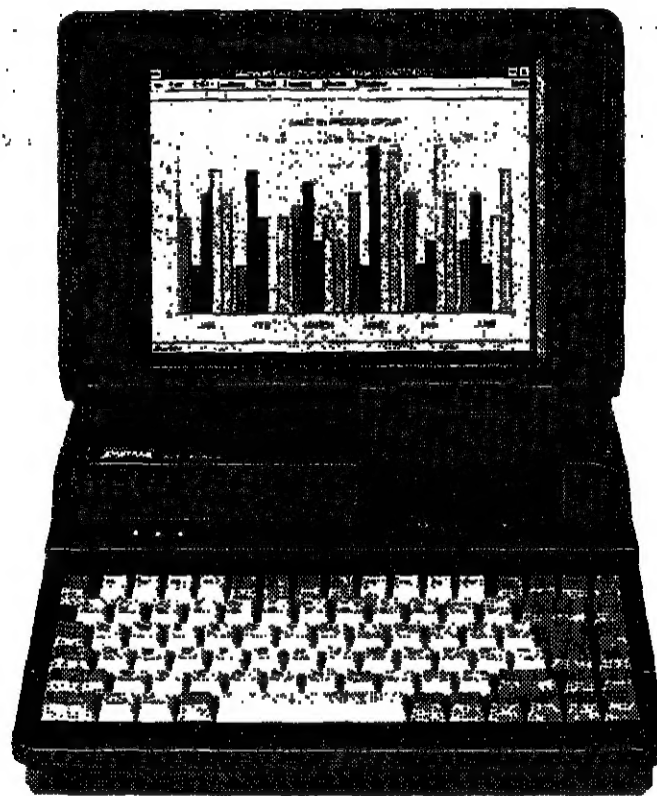
When yesterday's case came before the Court of Appeal in March, however, a special five-judge court headed by Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, unanimously dismissed the centuries-old legal principle that a man can rape his wife with impunity.

The time had come, Lord Lane then said, "when the law should declare that a rapist remains a rapist and is subject to the criminal law, irrespective of his relationship with his victim."

Yesterday the law lords unequivocally and finally laid that doctrine to rest.

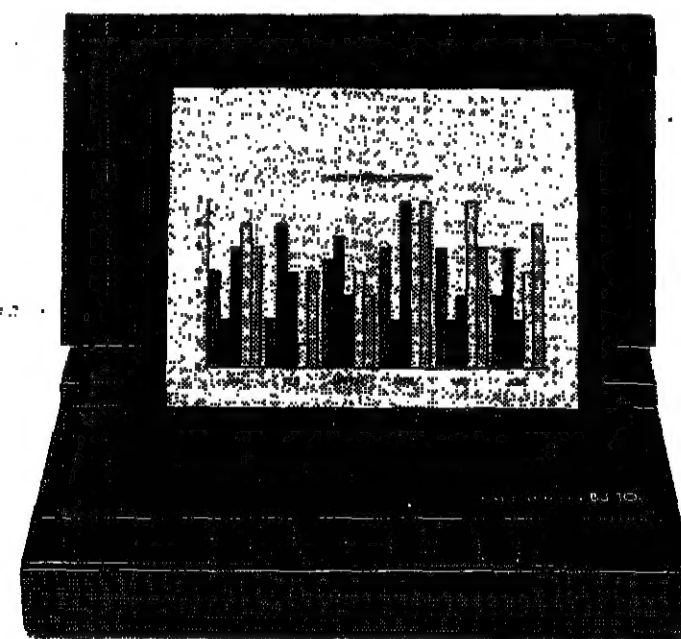
Wave of prosecutions, page 1  
Law Report, page 34

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By JOHN YOUNG

The largest grant, £235,000, goes to Ely, Cambridgeshire, for repairs to St Catherine's chapel and for the conservation of 14th century wall paintings. Among the other main beneficiaries are Lichfield, Staffordshire, which receives £225,000 for the

John Southgate, Dean of

No one could doubt that such great buildings were a vital part of the nation's

The survey of the condition of cathedrals, commissioned by English Heritage, was carried out by Harry Fairhurst, former chairman of the Cathedral Architects Association.

Mr Fairhurst said yesterday that the survey had concluded that at least £24.3 million needed to be spent on major structural repairs in the next three years, and a further £93 million in the following seven years. To that had to be added the cost of contents conservation, archaeological recording and investment in new facilities essential to the effective use of the buildings: in all £185 million.



By THOMSON PRENTICE  
MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

In the letter Mr Steel accused Mr Noble of writing "factually incorrect, abusive and obscene" articles under a false name and of lying in wait for Mrs Steel to assault her. He accused both Nobles of making offensive remarks about the police and suggested the Nobles were co-habiting pretending to be married.

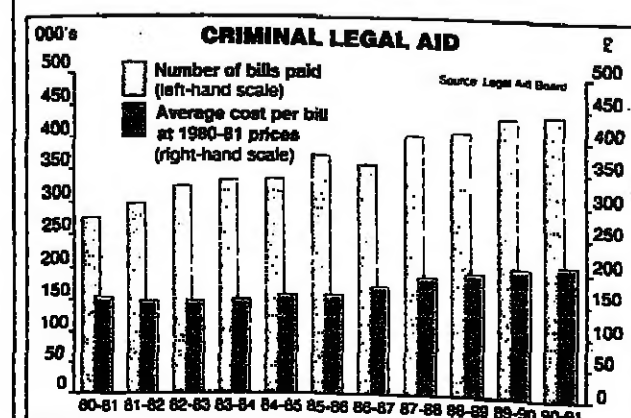
Since records began in 1982, 45 children are known to have developed Aids in this way, of which 22 have died. Another 97 children have been infected by their mothers, but have not yet gone on to develop Aids.

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

Yesterday the department distanced itself from blame for the poor management systems and lack of controls. Although accountable for the legal aid vote, including spending on legal aid arising from grants made in the magistrates' courts, it had no responsibility for the magistrates' courts themselves, it said.

The department said that meant it could not control the administrative procedure of the courts even though they affected spending for which the department was responsible.

The audit office's main criticisms were of insufficient information on the grounds for which criminal legal aid was being sought, or whether they met the statutory criteria; a lack of clear evidence about checks on applicants' income as a basis for assessing contributions; variations in the documents supporting awards; and the need for more guidance and instruction to ensure improved procedure and consistency of treatment between courts.



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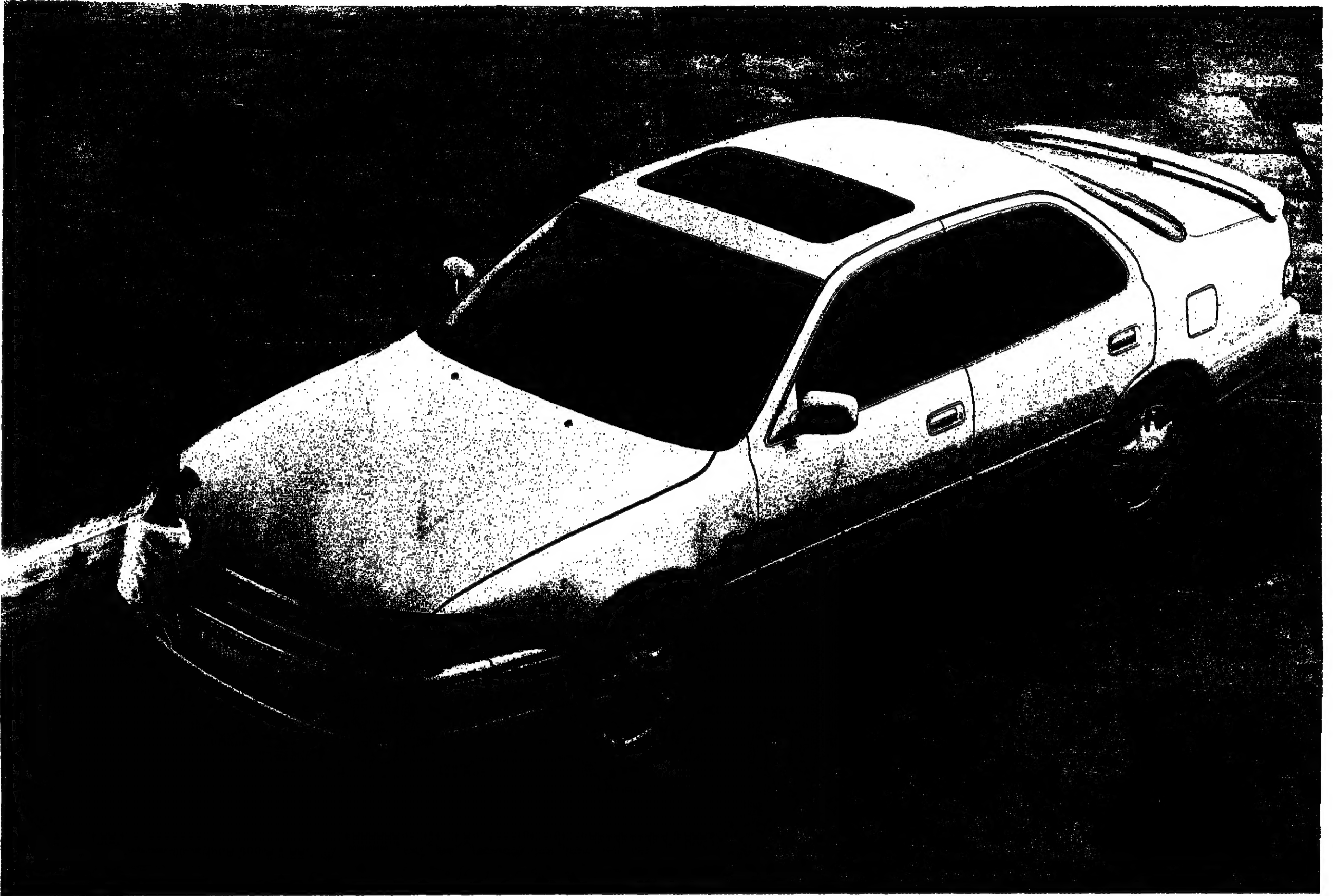
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indicates," a U.S. magazine asked its readers: "no the American side. But have substituted any of the other state agencies who began doing the telling, considering our other countries will take the blame, they will."

Although the claim that the aid is too small is true, the reasons underlying a continued economic predicament are not.

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In the east the timber that ledled through a whole country closed long a string of towns, as the chattering the water running along the coast, S.S. once home number of better than

While the Tories' constituency has been hit as hard by the economic downturn as any other, it is not the only area still suffering from the effects of the recession. Unemployment has risen by 2.5 per cent over the last year to 10.1 per cent. A third of the Tory's workers are

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By Sir John  
ORD, leader of  
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# Defence rebel voted top woman in shadow cabinet

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THREE years ago Neil Kinnock dismissed Ann Clwyd from his front bench for rebelling against him on defence. Yesterday she became the top woman in his shadow cabinet, certain of a cabinet job as minister of overseas development if Labour wins the general election.

In their last poll before the election Labour MPs have again rewarded the strong performers of the past 12 months. Ms Clwyd, who was first elected to the shadow cabinet in 1989 a year after her dismissal as a junior spokesman, has had a good year in one of the least fashionable posts.

One of the few shadow ministers with a spending commitment under her belt — Labour will aim to reach the United Nations target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product on aid over a five-year term — Ms Clwyd impressed her colleagues with her handling of the Kurdish tragedy after the Gulf war. Her moving account of the plight of the Kurds after her visit to northern Iraq made a big impact on the Commons chamber. She was the second placed woman last year.

Bryan Gould, making one of his best showings for several years, earned approval for

his demolition job on the government as it replaced the poll tax with the council tax. He soared from seventeenth to fifth place, and secured 42 more votes than last year. He got his party's local elections campaign off to a flying start by unveiling detailed figures for Labour's "fair rates" alternative.

Robin Cook, in second place, gained the PLP's endorsement for the way he has handled ministers over the health service reforms. Gordon Brown, who topped the poll, has again been a thorn in the government's side. Frank Dobson, the shadow energy secretary, has led a forceful

onslaught on big pay rises for the heads of privatised industries and on business contributions to Tory party funds.

By parading his shadow cabinet on the stage at the Brighton conference Mr Kinnock was effectively telling his party that this was the team he wanted to take into the next election. The MPs followed his lead. Seven fewer candidates stood for election this year and the votes they received last time were redistributed to those who did stand. The result was that almost all 18 elected members got an increased vote even if their positions in the "league table" fell. John Prescott's

vote, for example, went up by 33. Even Jo Richardson, who finished in the last elected place, had ten more votes.

In an ideal world for Mr Kinnock the elected members would have included Martin O'Neill and Kevin McNamara, his defence and Northern Ireland spokesmen. Only since 1981 has a Labour leader been bound to put into his first cabinet the people whom Labour MPs have elected to his shadow cabinet. The shadow cabinet, or its predecessor, the executive committee of the PLP, has been elected since the 1920s but it was only in the late Sixties that it took on the character of a "shadow" with man-to-man marking of the government ministers.

The last time Labour was on the threshold of government there were only 12 elected members in the shadow cabinet. The 12 elected in November 1973 — James Callaghan, Michael Foot, Reg Prentice, Anthony Crosland, Roy Jenkins, Shirley Williams, Denis Healey, Tony Benn, Harold Lever, Merlyn Rees, Peter Shore and William Ross — all made it into the February 1974 cabinet but Harold Wilson, then prime minister, had the leeway to appoint many

more of his own choices, including Eric Varley and Barbara Castle.

Mr Kinnock will have no such latitude. The 18 elected members, plus himself and Roy Hattersley, the Lords leader and Lord Chancellor, will take his cabinet up to the maximum of 22 cabinet rank salaries. He can appoint others to the cabinet at less than cabinet salary, although he may ponder carefully before allowing such sensitive posts as defence and Northern Ireland to be in any way as being of "second-class" rank.

The rule introduced in 1989 requiring all MPs to vote for at least three women has made it much harder for men to break into the shadow cabinet. That has been the big obstacle in the way of Mr O'Neill. Yesterday he secured 86 votes, 23 higher than last year, and was the runner-up, but he was still 21 votes behind the last elected member. With less to shoot at these days in Labour's defence policy, ministers have recently begun focusing on Mr O'Neill's inability to get elected to the shadow cabinet as proof that Labour is weaker on defence than it cares to admit.



Leading article, page 19

Victor's smile: Ann Clwyd is rewarded for a good year in an unfashionable job

## Winners and losers

Results: Elected: Gordon Brown 150, Robin Cook 149, John Smith 141, Ann Clwyd 137, Bryan Gould 136, Margaret Beckett 134, Frank Dobson 134, Tony Blair 132, Ann Taylor 126, David Clark 122, Donald Dewar 122, Jack Cunningham 121, Gerald Kaufman 121, Jack Straw 119, Michael Meacher 118, John Prescott 118, Barry Jones 113, Jo Richardson 107. Not elected: Tony Banks (Newham North West) 41, Tony Benn (Chesfield) 39, Dennis Canavan (Falkirk West) 35, Bob Taylor (Bradford South) 29, Tam Dalyell (Linlithgow) 26, Ron

Davies (Carmarilly) 83, Llin Golding (Newcastle-under-Lyme) 61, Mildred Gordon (Bow and Poplar) 40, Bernie Grant (Tottenham) 30, Harriet Harman (Peckham) 45, Joan Lester (Eccles) 72, Kevin McNamara (Hull North) 59, Martin O'Neill (Clackmannan) 86, George Robertson (Hamilton) 48, Barry Sheerman (Huddersfield) 32, Clare Short (Birmingham Ladywood) 45, Clive Soley (Hammersmith) 31, Chris Smith (Islington South and Finsbury) 32, Gavin Strang (Edinburgh East) 50, Keith Vaz (Leicester East) 22.

## Signs point to a gloomy outlook

Richard Ford finds that the Tories face an uphill struggle to hold the marginal seat of Langbaugh, still haunted by the effects of the 1981 recession

"WE thought Halifax was the name of one of the candidates," a Labour campaigner joked in the highly-marginal northeast seat of Langbaugh. But he could have substituted the name of any of the other well-known estate agents whose "for sale" signs clutter the constituency, a telling reminder of the lack of consumer confidence and the uphill task the Tories face in retaining the seat.

Although the Conservatives claim that the area has not been hit as hard as elsewhere by the recession, there is underlying concern at longer-term economic prospects and the jobs outlook.

Langbaugh, pronounced Langbarf and created by the boundary commission, runs southeast from the suburbs of Middlesbrough to the moorlands of the Cleveland Hills and east to the dramatic cliffs of the North Yorkshire coast. Seven of the constituency's 17 wards are in the housing estates, both public and private, of south Middlesbrough. In the east the iron ore mines that helped make Middlesbrough a steelmaking centre closed long ago, leaving a string of towns and villages with the characteristics of former mining communities. Along the coast, Saltburn-by-the-Sea and Marske-by-the-Sea, once home to a large number of retired people, are now dormitory towns for Teesside workers.

While the Tories argue that the constituency has not been hit as hard by the present economic downturn, Labour claims that this means little in an area still suffering from the 1981 recession. Unemployment has risen by 20 per cent over the last year to 13.9 per cent. A third of the constituency's workers are in manu-

facturing, mainly commuting into Teesside where the key employers are British Steel and ICI.

Labour launched its campaign promising that the contest would be a referendum on the question of hospital options, but has failed to release the momentum which swept it to victory in Middlesbrough. As Labour shifts its ground to the economy and the recession, Tory tactics have been to stress the party's commitment to the NHS to stop it becoming the key issue.

Tory strategists feel that they may have begun to neutralise it as an issue but even the health secretary, William Waldegrave, visiting the constituency yesterday, admitted that much needed to be done.

A matter of some speculation is whether the origins of the Labour candidate will damage his chances of overturning the Tories' 2,088 majority in a constituency where there are few black voters. Ashok Kumar, a British Steel research scientist born in India, points to his success in winning a council seat in a Middlesbrough ward which was overwhelmingly white as evidence that race is not a factor in the campaign for the November 7 by-election.

The Tories have chosen Michael Bates, a Tynesider, for what appears to be a two-horse race. The Liberal Democrats' candidate, Peter Allen, is running a low-key campaign with much of the party's effort being invested in the Scottish marginal seat of Kincardine and Deeside.

General election 1987: R Holt (Con) 26,047; P Harford (Lab) 23,959; R Ashby (Lib/All) 12,405; Con majority 2,088.

## Lord Cledwyn again impresses his peers

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

LORD Cledwyn of Penrhos, Labour's veteran leader of the Lords, has once again been voted the most impressive peer, according to an opinion poll in the upper House.

At the celebration this week to mark his lordship's 40 years in parliament, Neil Kinnock also made it clear that he will offer his countryman the cabinet post of leader of the Lords in a Labour government.

The poll by Mori among the peers who regularly attend the Lords put Lord Cledwyn, aged 75, top of the popularity stakes for the fourth year running. He was the first choice of 28 per cent of all peers questioned, including 24 per cent of Conservatives.

Two more recent recruits, Lord Richard, a candidate to be a Labour Lord Chancellor, and Lord Clinton-Davis, former EC commissioner and cabinet minister, both made the list of 15 most impressive peers, scoring 10 and 7 per cent

respectively. By comparison Lord Waddington, leader of the Lords, entered the poll at 7 per cent and the popularity of Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor, fell to 15 per cent.

The top ranking Tory was the former cabinet minister Lord Boyd-Carpenter, aged 83, scoring 26 per cent. The only woman to make the top 15 was Lady Secar, deputy leader of the Liberal Democrat peers.

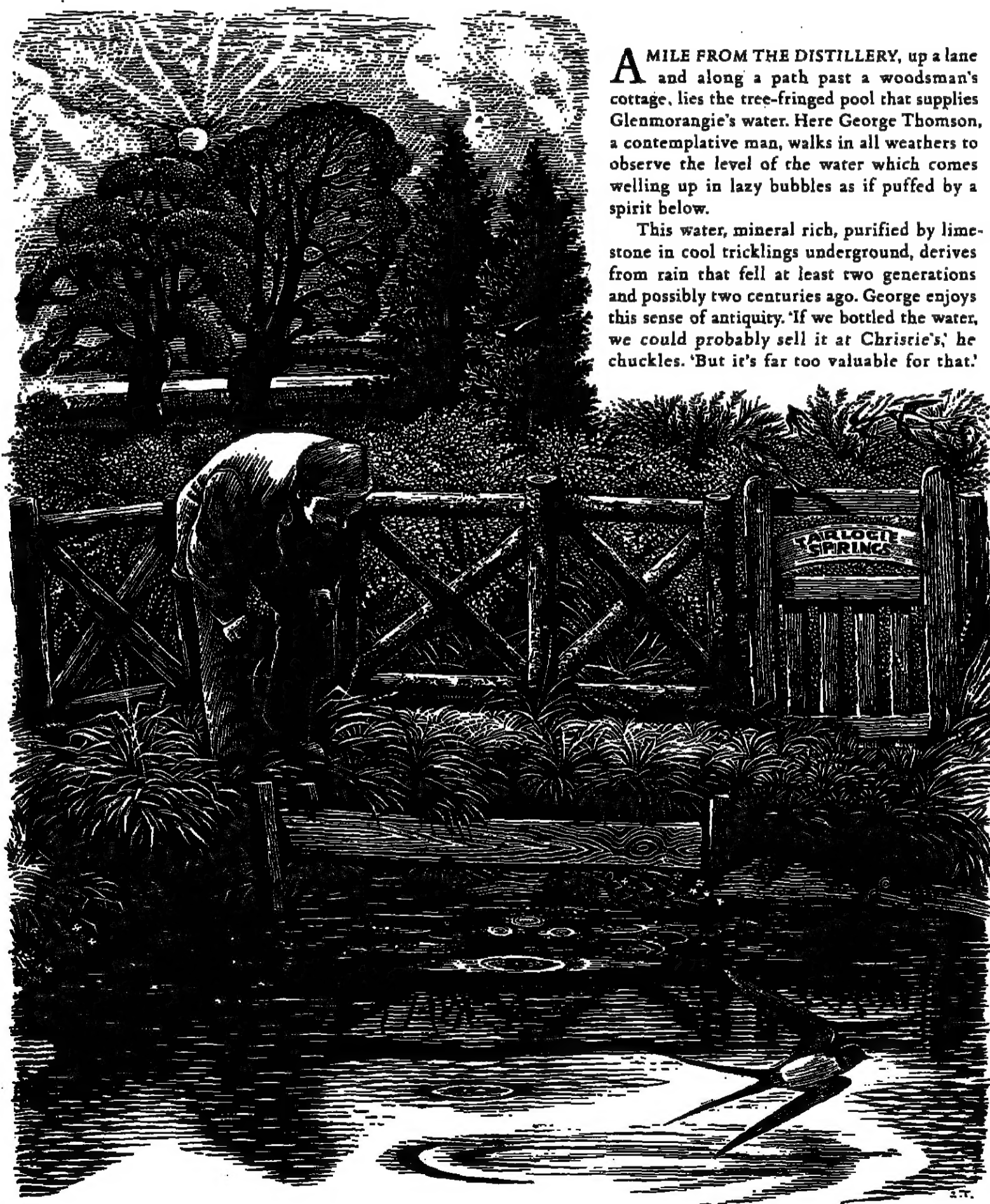


Lord Cledwyn: a cabinet post if Labour wins

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A MILE FROM THE DISTILLERY, up a lane and along a path past a woodsman's cottage, lies the tree-fringed pool that supplies Glenmorangie's water. Here George Thomson, a contemplative man, walks in all weathers to observe the level of the water which comes welling up in lazy bubbles as if puffed by a spirit below.

This water, mineral rich, purified by limestone in cool tricklings underground, derives from rain that fell at least two generations and possibly two centuries ago. George enjoys this sense of antiquity. 'If we bottled the water, we could probably sell it at Christie's,' he chuckles. 'But it's far too valuable for that.'



By JOHN YOUNG

Contemporary critics savaged it; *The Builder* magazine fulminated that "the whole structure is the most monstrous and preposterous architectural sham that we have ever known of," and was a discredit to the generation that

Like the other three downstream bridges — London, Southwark and Blackfriars — it is owned by the City corporation, although its gate-

never been here before. It shows the history of the bridge, its engineering and its architecture. It is so educational."



Grassholm is believed to be the biggest gannetry in the world, with some 35,000 pairs occupying 12 of the island's 22 acres. Fewer birds were saved this year than previously because bad weather delayed the rescue mission. The plastic and nylon debris is to be examined to try to identify where it originates.

### Sex shop jailing

Kevin Haigh, aged 37, of Bradford, West Yorkshire, was jailed for six months by Leeds crown court for selling obscene material at his sex shop in the town. Milagros Haigh, aged 33, his wife, and Martin Frobisher, aged 30, a director of the firm, were each fined £130 for similar offences. All pleaded guilty.

By DOUGLAS BROOM, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

Having given local authorities no more than "a cursory mention" in its plans for the inner cities in the 1980s, the government had now accepted that councils had a leading role to play. Action had also

**Get on top of tomorrow.**

**Iron horse: an engraving of the Rocket at the 1829 Rainhill railway competition**

## By RONALD FAUX

The warehouses, a main feature of the scheme, are now part of the Museum of Science and Technology in Manchester. At Tuesday's announcement of the restoration plan and the tour of the warehouses there were no trains to threaten officials from English Heritage, the thing from oysters to cotton passing through the building. The style of warehouse soon became a familiar feature all over the country, "so familiar that we can easily forget that the design was once novel and revolutionary", Lord Montagu said.

Patrick Greene, director of

The first four phases of a 12-phase restoration programme will cost £8.5 million. The first exhibition is planned on the ground floor of the building for December 1993. Architects for the renovation are Building Design Partnership, Manchester.

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## Pay rises for personnel chiefs mock inflation rate

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

SALARIES for personnel managers have increased by almost 12 per cent at a time when they are planning to offer employees rises of only half that amount. The government has been urging personnel managers to negotiate lower pay deals with staff.

Michael Howard, the employment secretary, last week called for realism in pay settlements if jobs were not to be put at risk. However, a new survey of pay rises for Britain's 100,000 personnel managers shows that their increases are running at close to three times the inflation rate.

Details of the survey will be announced at the annual conference of the Institute of Personnel Management, which opens in Harrogate today. It shows that personnel managers' earnings rose by 11.8 per cent. Though that is lower than their 15.6 per cent rise last year, it is still well above the going rate for pay settlements generally, which independent analysts put at about 5 to 8 per cent.

The survey, carried out for the institute by Remuneration Economics, shows that personnel managers had higher rises than their counterparts. Managers in companies' computing departments saw their earnings rise by 11.4 per cent, those in finance departments by 10.8 per cent and those in engineering 10 per cent.

Average annual salaries for personnel specialists were £22,360. Personnel directors earned much more, at an average of £60,876, while departmental managers earned £33,287.

Company cars are being

offered to fewer personnel managers, with 41.2 per cent being given cars in 1991 compared to 43 per cent last year. More personnel staff are receiving private medical care.

Disclosure of the rises that company pay negotiators are obtaining comes as a separate pay survey shows that personnel managers are planning big savings on pay for employees in the coming year.

The survey, carried out by consultants Mercer Fraser and the magazine *Personnel Today*, discloses that personnel managers are budgeting for increases of only 6.3 per cent for their employees next year, just over half the increase that the managers have been receiving.

Within that category, pay increases planned for employees in London are the highest, at 7.1 per cent, while those for employees in Wales and the South-West are the lowest, at 6.1 per cent. Personnel managers in the food and drink industry plan the highest rises for their employees, at 7.2 per cent, while those in building and construction, hard-hit by the recession, plan the lowest at 5.3 per cent.

Barry Currow, president of the Institute of Personnel Management, said: "The rise [for personnel managers] takes into account that people remaining in personnel departments are taking on extra responsibilities." He said the institute survey showed that redundancies among personnel managers had doubled to 2.3 per cent, excluding companies that had closed in the recession.



Royal tribute: Jenny Mooney, a special-wreath maker at the Royal British Legion's poppy factory, preparing the wreath that the Queen will lay at the Cenotaph in London on

Remembrance Day, Sunday, November 10. The poppy factory in Richmond, southwest London, was founded in 1922 to make poppies for the Poppy Appeal which is the mainstay of the

legion's work in the ex-service community. Last year, as well as 34 million poppies, it made 89,000 wreaths and 450,000 Remembrance crosses. Those helped the appeal to raise £13 million.

## BR accused of dropping sperm flask

BRITISH Rail may receive a compensation claim after a flask containing human sperm was allegedly dropped on a station platform. Part of York railway station was closed for two hours yesterday when the canister developed a leak in a Red Star parcel office.

Firemen and police cordoned off near by buildings as the flask released a cloud of gas after allegedly falling from a British Rail trolley while on its way to a fertility unit in south Wales. The alarm was raised when liquid nitrogen, which keeps the semen frozen, escaped and evaporated. Firemen opened documents to discover what was in the flask.

The British Pregnancy Advisory Service, which sent the three-litre metal container from its Doncaster unit, said it might seek damages if the sperm proved unuseable. Alan Nicholls, its laboratory services adviser, said: "The flask was labelled 'keep upright'." It held semen for in vitro fertilisation treatment.

Brian Bell, of York fire brigade, said: "We have had to deal with spillages, but never a sample of donor sperm." A Red Star spokesman said: "Clearly we are liable for damage caused by our fault."

## Princess puts price on water

By Michael McCarthy, Environment Correspondent

BRITONS should stop laughing at hosepipe bans and wake up to the seriousness of the issue of water, nationally and internationally, the Princess Royal said yesterday.

Although supplies in Britain were limited, hosepipe bans were greeted with mirth or irritation, she said, while in the developing countries water supply was becoming the crucial factor limiting social and economic progress, and was likely to be a future cause of war. "We can live without oil if we have to. We cannot live without water," she said.

Addressing a London conference on water quality, the Princess Royal spoke of the problems that water shortage and pollution were causing around the world. Much of her information was drawn from her travels as president of Save the Children.

Two hundred million people in developing countries lacked safe water and sanitation services, she said, and the figure would double by the year 2000. Cities such as Peking, Lima and Mexico City were already pumping out their groundwater faster than it could be replenished.



Looking ahead: Mr Herbert aims to raise Kew's profile

## Raising cash as well as plants

By Rachel Kelly

THE first floral love of the new chairman of Kew Gardens, Robin Herbert, was a pink geranium, displayed proudly on his mantle-piece at Elton. Forty-four years later, he holds the two most important jobs in gardening as president of the Royal Horticultural Society and, since last week, as chairman of Kew garden's trustees.

His new job could not easily be described as high profile. But Mr Herbert could change that. "High-profile" well describes a man who stands 6ft 7in in his socks, and he has plans for Kew that will inch him into the limelight.

Kew needs money. A key part of Mr Herbert's role is to secure funds. Since the 1983 National Heritage Act turned Kew into a grant-aided body no longer directly funded by government and run by trustees, Kew has had to find ways of becoming financially independent. The entrance fee is now £3 compared with 15p in 1983.

In his tweed jacket and National Trust tie, Mr Herbert is far from being just a money man. A god-father inspired him as a teenager by showing him many of the greatest gardens and introducing him to their gardeners, including Eric Savill, the Queen's gardener at Windsor. At 16, he inherited a garden in Gwent and a

10,000 acre estate. He has been planting for 40 of his 57 years, chiefly hardy trees and shrubs, and autumn colouring plants, but reserving special pride for plants raised from wild seed sources including his magnolias and camellias.

Nevertheless, Mr Herbert has some useful financial contacts. He is friends with the agriculture minister, John Gummer, a bond forged during his presidency of the RHS and as a trustee of Kew for the past four years. His directorships at the National Westminster Bank and Marks & Spencer should help his search for sponsorship.

But it is chiefly through the Friends of Kew and the Kew Foundation, set up last year to raise funds, that Mr Herbert hopes to raise cash and Kew's profile.

Two ongoing projects should help with the latter. The £1.6 million new Victoria gate visitor centre, complete with ticketing, interpretation and retail centre, opens next year. "I think Kew does not do enough interpretation for visitors," he says.

Mr Herbert will also oversee a million pound extension to the Jodrell laboratory, responsible for work on plant chemistry. "I think the emphasis in Kew's profile might change in favour of its scientific work."

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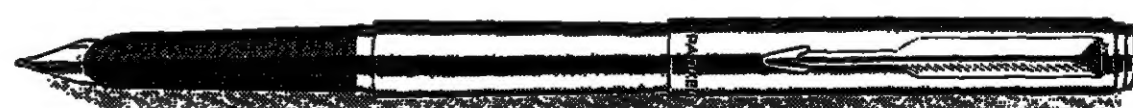




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# Cambodian warlords start talks to end 20 years of bloodshed

By OUR FOREIGN STAFF

PRESIDENT Mitterrand yesterday opened an historic 19-nation conference to end the war in Cambodia, saying the country was about to resume its place in the world.

Amid cheers from hundreds of Cambodian exiles, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, who will head an interim Cambodian administration, arrived at the start of the one-day meeting, with other leaders of the warring factions and foreign ministers, including James Baker, the US Secretary of State and Nguyen Manh Cam, Vietnam's foreign minister.

A treaty to put an end to 20 years of bloodshed and civil war was due to be signed yesterday evening. This provides for a ceasefire, to be monitored by the UN and the setting up of a supreme national council to shepherd the country towards UN-sponsored elections next year. The first small contingent of UN troops will arrive in Cambodia early next month to help maintain the ceasefire until the full UN operation can get under way, probably in four-and-a-half months.

The UN advance mission in Cambodia, led by French Brigadier-General Michel Lorrion, will be made up of a total of 268 UN staff, including 50 military officers and 20 minesweeping experts. The mission will also include 75 international staff and 75 locally hired people, and a 40-strong Australian communications unit. Its role will be to help the rival parties in Cambodia police the ceasefire until the UN transitional authority in Cambodia takes over that responsibility.

Mr Baker said on arrival that the treaty could not guarantee lasting peace but would give "great hope". He denounced as an "abomination

tion to humanity" the killing of more than a million people by the communist Khmer Rouge in 1975-8. "The Khmer Rouge were no ordinary oppressors. In the name of revolution, they used violence against their own people in a way that has few parallels in history," he said.

The Chinese-backed guerrilla movement was represented at the conference table by one of Pol Pot's chief aides, Klien Samphan, who participated in the bloody Khmer Rouge rule over Cambodia. Hun Sen, the Cambodian prime minister, whose Vietnamese-installed government is one of four Cambodian factions signing the accord, said he "shared the joy of the Cambodian people". But he accused the Khmer Rouge of creating "new problems," which he did not specify. He said the Cambodian police would be able to guarantee Prince Sihanouk's safety when he returned to Phnom Penh on November 14.

The UN operation will cost at least \$588 million, the most expensive the world body has yet undertaken. At stake is the potential stabilisation of a whole region from the Chinese borders to those of Thailand, the possibility of the return of Vietnam to the international fold and a sharp reduction of tensions in the Pacific region.

The original estimated requirement for the UN transitional force was 10,000 civil and military personnel who might, as one diplomat put it, "have to do everything, including collecting the garbage". The progress shown in the lead up to Paris has convinced many that the force's task will not now be so fearsome as it was, with the ceasefire more or less holding since May 1. But keeping the peace will be no easy task.

The backbone of the peacekeepers are expected to come from the classical providers of such personnel: the Canadians, the Poles, the Nordic countries, and the Australians. This time expectations are high that Japan will make its first contribution to such a peacekeeping mission - if it can get the requisite legislation passed by the end of the year. Certainly Tokyo is expected to make a large voluntary cash contribution beyond the 12 per cent it must pay under its UN obligations. Already Australia has vowed to make

no charge for providing up to 40 communications experts and all related equipment for the UN mission.

Britain is to offer direct aid to Cambodia for the first time and will also contribute to the cost of the reintegration into Vietnam of the boat people from camps in Hong Kong and the region, Lord Cairness, minister of state at the Foreign Office, announced in Paris yesterday.

He said the aid would include \$2 million towards the repatriation of people in camps along the Thailand-Cambodia border, and \$3 million to support humanitarian programmes, including one run by the World Health Organisation to combat the spread of malaria.

Diplomats voiced private concern that the intricate peace accords could collapse if the Khmer Rouge ignore its key clauses disarming guerrilla forces and bide their time for a fresh bid to seize power.

Leading article, page 19



Praying for peace: Prince Sihanouk arriving at the Paris conference yesterday

## Pol Pot's elite hidden in jungle

FROM JAMES PRINGLE ON THE THAI/CAMBODIAN BORDER

THE Khmer Rouge, which yesterday signed a peace accord in Paris with the other three Cambodian factions, has a secret army hidden in the Cardamomes mountains of southwest Cambodia, a well-informed source said here.

The secret army, which is thought to number several thousand and is believed to be a kind of praetorian guard for Pol Pot, the Khmer Rouge leader, lives in dense jungles and has no contact with the exterior. Its fighters "do not know the taste of capitalism," the source said, speaking in the Thai border town of Ban Aranyaphrathet.

"They are 'pure and hard' like the original Khmer Rouge," said the source. "They have no experience with the more relaxed ambience and the trading along the Thai border. They are the least changed, and their leaders want to keep it that way."

Other Khmer Rouge groups have been dealing with Thai traders along the border. They have become less hardline, sometimes wearing Buddhist amulets, and T-shirts depicting Thai beauty queens. The secret Khmer Rouge army wears Chinese-style khaki uniforms, and black rubber sandals.

They were almost totally self-sufficient, the source said, and had plentiful arms and ammunition.

Pol Pot, under whose rule an estimated one million Cambodians died, lives in southeast Thailand, not far from the Cardamomes, which were never thoroughly penetrated while the Vietnamese army occupied Cambodia from 1979 to 1989.

Another Cambodian source familiar with the area controlled by those who resisted the Phnom Penh regime, said there were several "completely inaccessible" base camps in these mountains. "The Khmer Rouge have been there since the early 1970s, and are well established in several secret bases. They even grow their own rice on the hillsides."

This source said it would be "very difficult" for the United Nations peacekeeping troops, who will monitor the ceasefire, to supervise the partial dismantling of the factions' armies and to search for arms caches.

"They are inaccessible on the ground except to jungle fighters like the Khmer Rouge, and there is nowhere for a helicopter to land."



Nguyen Manh Cam in Paris yesterday

## Marcos faces new charges

Manila - Twelve days before Imelda Marcos, the former first lady, returns home from exile, the Philippines government yesterday filed new charges, accusing her of stealing more than \$208 million (Abby Tan writes).

Mrs Marcos has declared that she is innocent and ready to return home from Hawaii on November 4 to face trial on charges of tax evasion, seizing territory and corruption.

Earlier, the government filed a petition in court to freeze and forfeit the money found in three Swiss banks.

● **Wired up:** The government has said it will return Mrs Marcos's shoes and bullet-proof bra if she can prove that she bought them without using public funds. Horacio Paredes, a press under-secretary, said yesterday. (AFP)

## Monarchy ends

Port Louis - The Queen will cease to be Mauritius's head of state when it becomes a republic next March, Sir Anerood Jugnauth, the prime minister, announced. He discussed the matter with the Queen at the Commonwealth summit in Harare "and her response was positive", he said. (Reuters)

## Haiti pullout

Port-au-Prince - The US ambassador to Haiti has urged American citizens to leave "now". Alvin Adams said that he and his wife would go this week because the situation, following the ousting of the president last month, was the most serious he had seen. He told Voice of America suffering would increase. (AFP)

## Close shave

Jakarta - Indonesian military authorities are considering shaving the heads of reckless public transport drivers after roadside "trials" to enforce road discipline, press reports said. The punishment is already imposed on young people caught in a campaign launched in August against undisciplined youth. (AFP)

## US hints of new Hanoi ties

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

SIXTEEN years after the fall of Saigon, James Baker, the American Secretary of State, announced yesterday that America was ready to negotiate the normalisation of relations with Vietnam. He said the talks, which should end one of the most painful chapters in American history, could begin next month.

Mr Baker made the announcement shortly before Vietnam, which has propped up the Hun Sen regime in Phnom Penh, fulfilled a key American precondition for normalisation by signing in Paris a United Nations-sponsored peace plan to end 20 years of conflict in Cambodia. Mr Baker emphasised, however, that progress would depend on full Vietnamese co-operation in accounting for the 2,300 Americans still missing after the war.

Yesterday's announcement was in line with a four-stage "road map" for normalising relations which the Bush administration gave Hanoi last April. The first stage was signing yesterday's agreement, and Mr Baker said that Washington intended to "remain true" to that pathway approach by proceeding to direct talks with Hanoi.

The second stage will involve a partial lifting of the American economic embargo imposed on Vietnam in 1975 as the Cambodian ceasefire takes effect and a UN transitional presence is established. The third stage, starting after a further six months and once all Vietnam's armed forces had left Cambodia, would include an end to the embargo and American support for international loans to Hanoi. Normal diplomatic relations would follow the emergence of a new elected national assembly in Cambodia.

Britain stands to benefit considerably from an easing of the American embargo, since the wretched economic state of Vietnam has been the main cause of the boat people's exodus to Hong Kong.



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## Economic gloom hits president's popularity

From PETER STOTHARD IN WASHINGTON

FOR the first time in his presidency, less than half the electorate would like to see George Bush re-elected to the White House, according to an opinion poll published yesterday.

Loss of economic confidence is the principle cause of the fall in the president's popularity measured in the Washington Post-ABC news survey. Only 37 per cent of those polled approved the president's handling of the economy, down five points in a month, and the same percentage said that a Demo-

crat alternative would be preferable, even though no frontrunner to challenge Mr Bush has emerged. In all, 47 per cent expressed an inclination to vote for the president, down from 68 per cent in March after the Gulf war. Fifty-one per cent agreed with the statement that "after four years of George Bush we need a president who can set us off in a new direction".

The poll appeared the day after a New York Times-CBS survey reported that 60 per cent of Americans now felt that "things in the country had gotten pretty seriously off on the wrong track". That is almost twice the number recorded in January. Forty-two per cent of those questioned in the ABC poll named an economic issue as their chief concern, 16 per cent more than a month ago when drugs and crime predominated.

The White House yesterday attempted to shrug off the adverse numbers. Martin Fitzwater, the White House spokesman, said that "polls go up and polls go down but the American people know that George Bush is doing a good job". Behind the scenes, however, the administration is alarmed by the lingering recession and divided about what, if anything, should be done to counter its impact.

The president's own economic instinct, backed by his chief economic advisers, is to do as little as possible. He is concerned that a shift of course could break the fragile budget deal with Congress while merely boosting an economy that is already on its way out of trouble.

But the politics of the recession have begun to dominate the daily Washington agenda. With an end to the Clarence Thomas affair, and with foreign affairs dominated by a Middle East peace conference that little excites Americans, the Democrats have seized on the national sense of economic fear.

Mario Cuomo, the governor of New York, who is poised to enter next year's presidential race, set out on Tuesday how he would attack Mr Bush if he decided to run. The Bush record on economic growth was "worse than Jimmy Carter's", he said. The notion that Bush was unbeatable was "a joke".

No presidential candidate has yet caught the tide but the White House wants to take no chances. It wants at least to march Democrat rhetoric about the need for a tax cut to help the middle classes.

Some presidential aides, led by Jack Kemp, the housing and urban development secretary, want to go further and reopen the battle for the president's personal totem, the capital gains tax cut, defeated by the Democrats during the budget negotiations last year.

There is little confidence that actions taken now will make much difference to the stuttering economy still dragged back by its heavy burden of debt. But, with the election only a year away, no politician likes to seem as powerless as he feels.



Bush: planning to visit California next month

### 'Plot' to kill Bush thwarted

From JEFF WILSON IN LOS ANGELES

A MAN who stockpiled weapons in his home may have been plotting to assassinate President Bush during his visit to southern California next month, officials said.

Thomas Ward, aged 45, was arrested on Sunday at his Oxnard home, where agents seized 34 firearms, including 12 automatic weapons, silencers, grenades and 27,000 rounds of ammunition, an official of the Ventura county sheriff's office said. He may have been plotting to kill Mr Bush during the dedication on November 4 of the Ronald Reagan presidential library and public affairs centre in Simi valley, the official said.

The Los Angeles Times, quoting an unidentified law enforcement source, said yesterday Mr Ward had told an informant he recently explored the hilly area around the library to learn where he could get the best shot at Mr Bush. President Bush and the former presidents Reagan, Ford and Nixon plan to attend the library ceremony 50 miles northeast of Los Angeles.

The sheriff's official said: "We are in the infancy of the investigation, but it does not appear he was connected with any subversive or militant groups."

Doug Carver of the Secret Service office in Santa Barbara, which has jurisdiction over the Oxnard area, said the agency received information in July that Mr Ward made remarks threatening President Bush. When he was arrested, Mr Ward denied making any threats. (AP)

### Commuters killed on eve of ANC talks

From RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

AT LEAST nine people were killed and 36 injured early yesterday when gangs of Zulu hostel dwellers attacked black rail commuters between Soweto and Johannesburg.

Hundreds jumped in panic from moving trains as the killers, armed with guns, machetes and knives, launched what appeared to be co-ordinated attacks at three stations. Police put the death toll at nine, but the African National Congress claimed that 13 people had been killed and called for increased self-defence measures for township residents. It accused the authorities of not doing enough to safeguard people's lives.

Both the ANC and the Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom party blamed each other for the deaths. Only one fact appeared certain - that once again violence has escalated on the eve of another move towards constitutional negotiations, this time the Patriotic Front conference to be held in Durban this weekend. It is hosted by the ANC and the Pan-Africanist Congress (PAC) but the Inkatha Freedom party has not been invited.

Themba Khoza, Inkatha's

Transvaal leader, claimed: "This clash occurred when a group of ANC supporters prevented people from boarding or leaving a train at Nancefield station." Police said it started when a Zulu-speaking man was attacked and killed on his way to the station from Nancefield hostel near by. Soon afterwards, a group of men attacked commuters at the station, they said. A gunman, who fired on police from the hostel, was wounded but police were unable to find him when they searched the building.

Nisundeni Madzunya of the PAC said police had done nothing to disarm about 1,000 hostel residents wielding axes and other "so-called traditional weapons". Lieutenant-Colonel Tienie Halgryn of the Soweto police said that there were too many to be "dispersed just like that". Further along the line at Orlando station, passengers fought their attackers.

Witnesses said they saw dozens of people, dead and wounded, lying along the tracks. One man was hacked to death by a gang as he tried to flee from one train. His body was hit by another train, they said.



Family business: Mr Nath introduces his grand-daughter to a cobra

## Indian tradition loses its charm

From CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN MORBANDI

TIMES are changing in Morbandi, a village of 200 snake charmers on the southern outskirts of Delhi. "Young people don't want to do this kind of work," says Prabhu Nath, who wears the saffron robes of the guru. "They want to be truck drivers and government clerks."

The village is in uproar over a festival to appease the terrible goddess Kali. She is being offered huge quantities of alcohol, and everybody is drunk. Mr Nath shows off a batch of snakes he caught in the forests of Punjab. One hisses and catches a child on the wrist. The boy screams as blood gushes from his arm and everybody laughs. As luck would have it, the snake's venom had been removed and sold for medicine.

"I have been bitten many times by cobras who still have their venom," says Mr Nath. "One of our skills is knowing the right herbs to use as an antidote. Occasionally somebody dies, of course, but that is fate. If

you are destined to die, the herbs won't work."

Snake charmers are harassed by police whenever they draw a crowd. Satpal Nath, aged 18, says he does not want the job. "I don't want to be a beggar asking for handouts. I am studying. I want a government job so I have security."

Mr Nath, who thinks he is in his sixties, has five sons, four of whom he has ordered to become snake charmers. "The government says we must educate our children, so the fifth son goes to school and will get a job for wages," he says.

As a guru, Mr Nath must teach those who wish to follow the family tradition. "First, they must learn how to catch snakes. Then it is necessary to understand which herbs will protect them from the venom."

He says snake charming has been good to him. "We own the land on which our houses stand. This is a good village. I find it sad that so many of our young people want something different."

## UK keeps watch on China jails

London - Britain yesterday voiced concern over human rights in China at talks here between Zou Jiahua, a deputy prime minister, and Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary (Michael Binyon writes).

During a 45-minute meeting, Mr Hurd asked for news of the political prisoners whose names were on a list handed over to the Chinese by John Major during the prime minister's visit to Peking last month. Mr Zou is the most senior Chinese politician to visit Britain for five years.

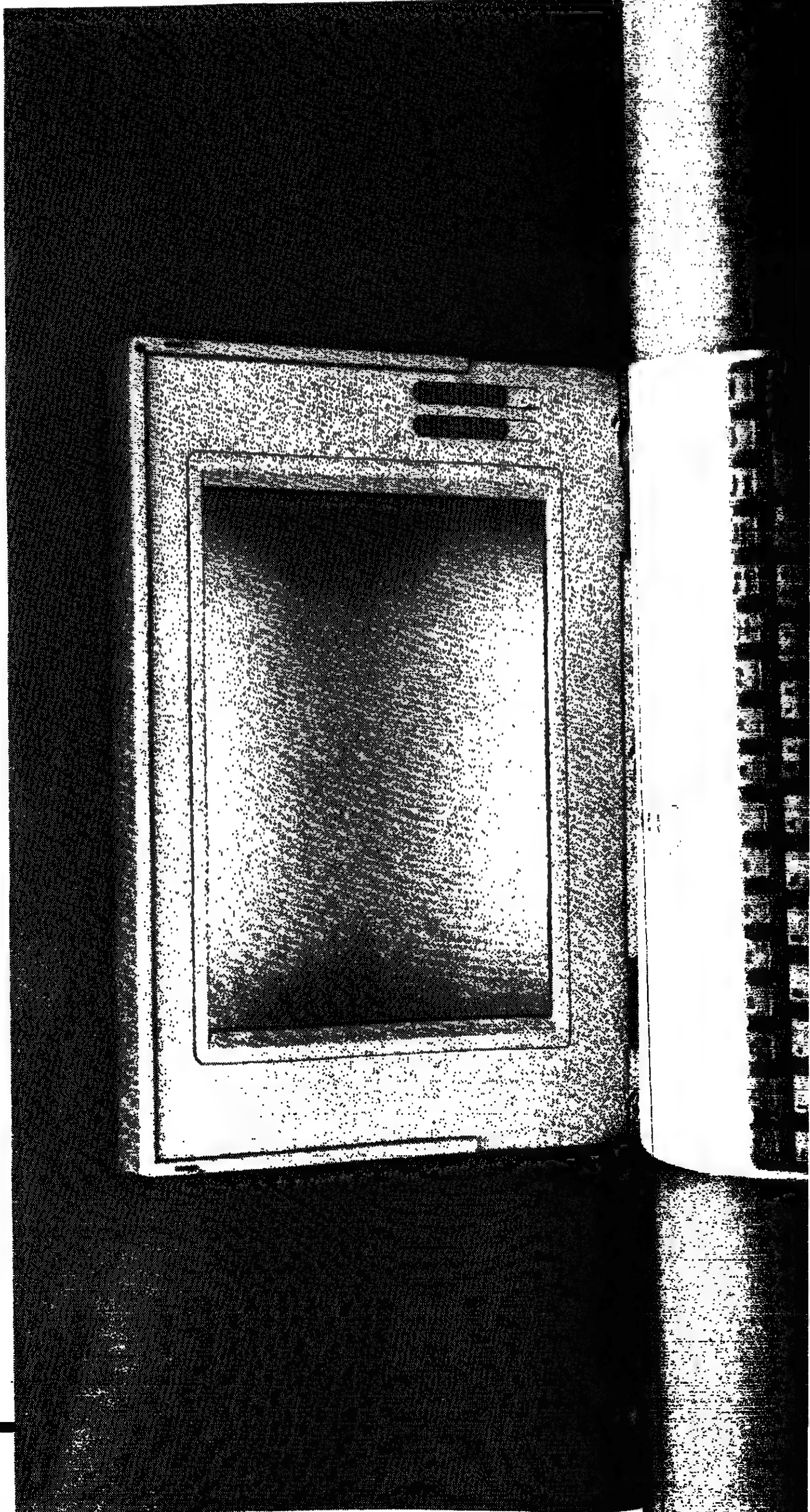
### Imperial birth

Tokyo - Princess Kiko, aged 24, the wife of Emperor Akihito's second son, Prince Akishino, has given birth to the emperor's first grandchild, a girl, the imperial household agency reported. (AP)

### Birds of prey

Taipei - Car thieves in Taiwan have evaded police while collecting ransoms from owners for the return of their vehicles by using homing pigeons. They leave a note and a pigeon, promising to return the car if the bird returns with the cash, police said. (Reuters)

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## Middle East conference

# Palestinian strikers challenge peace move

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN GAZA

THOUSANDS of Palestinian workers held a one-day strike in Gaza yesterday to protest against the planned talks with Israeli delegates at the Middle East peace conference in Madrid next week.

In what was seen as a challenge to the mainstream Palestine Liberation Organisation factions, which have agreed to participate in the peace talks, Palestinians in the occupied territories and in the West Bank heeded strike calls by a new rejectionist front.

The division in the Palestinian community, in the run-up to talks that could prove decisive in this people's troubled history, was demonstrated by one unfortunate delegate. Fehd Abu Meddin, a Gaza lawyer, found his secretary had not come to work as he prepared for his Madrid trip.

Although the opposition has not yet turned violent — there were only a few stone-throwing incidents yesterday — it became clear that there is real potential for inter-Arab feud-

ing once the issue of Palestinian self-rule is negotiated.

"We expected divisions and resistance in the community to the conference because we are after all attending them under Israeli's conditions," said Dr Haidar Abdul Shafi, aged 72, who will head the 14-man Palestinian negotiating team. "There are ample reasons why there should be opposition, but I am convinced there is something to be gained by attending."

Under the terms of the conference, the 1.8 million Palestinians in the occupied territories are being offered a five-year period of self-government. Negotiations would begin in the third year to decide its final status. Palestinians want an independent state, while Israel insists that they will be granted only autonomy.

Mr Abdul Shafi, who was a founding member of the PLO in 1964, but now emphasises that he belongs to no specific organisation, said his address to world leaders would dwell

on a peaceful future settlement.

While that approach is bound to impress the delegates, his rivals in the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the Islamic Jihad, and Hamas, the Islamic resistance movement, are planning a week of protests.

Dr Mahmoud al-Zahar, of Hamas, said he believed the lives of the Palestinian participants would be in danger if they negotiated and argued that they would be offered only a package of limited autonomy. "We will have the same conditions but lose our status as an occupied state. We will lose our case and the sympathy of the Muslim and Arab world."

Although the arguments over Palestinian independence will have to be worked out in Madrid, any suggestion that the Palestinians are willing to bargain away sovereignty is likely to lead to inter-Palestinian bloodshed.



Street protest: Palestinian women in the occupied territories passing an Israeli policeman during yesterday's strike

## Arabs try to forge Madrid strategy

FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA

ARAB foreign ministers met in Damascus yesterday in a drive led by Syria and the PLO to forge a joint strategy before the Middle East peace conference, which opens in Madrid next Wednesday.

The PLO, which will not be directly represented in Madrid, fears Arab double-dealing as much as Palestinian disunity or American duplicity and wants to make sure that Syria, Lebanon and Jordan do not sign separate peace treaties with Israel while the Palestine issue is ignored.

After the conference's ceremonial opening on October 30, the main delegations face Israel separately. American letters of assurances to the different parties have ruled out linkage between the various bilateral talks so that a delay in one set of negotiations will not delay others.

Lebanon, whose foreign policy is dictated by Damascus, was represented by its transport minister, Chawki Fakhouri. Saudi Arabia's foreign minister, Prince Saud al-Faisal, joined the meeting as an observer representing the six-nation Gulf Co-operation Council. Morocco's foreign minister, Abdellatif Filali, represented the five north African Maghreb Union states.

Farouk Kaddoumi, the PLO's "foreign minister", said the meeting would "establish a united stand that will represent the Arab cause and serve world peace". But closing ranks is easier said than done when alliances have been in a constant state of flux and relations between those meeting in Damascus have ranged from icy to downright hostility.

Syria, now united with Egypt after joining the Gulf war coalition, led the drive to isolate Egypt after Camp David in 1979. Syria and Jordan have been on the brink of war in the past, and Jordan and the PLO fought a bloody war in 1970. Syria's President Assad and the PLO leader, Yasser Arafat, ended an eight-year rift at the weekend.

As if to allay fears of a Syrian betrayal, the Damascus press insisted: "Where land is concerned, Syria's concern is not solely for the Golan Heights: it is every inch of Arab territory occupied by the Zionist entity since the creation of its state in Palestine."

The Damascus meeting was also called to forge a common Arab stand on the third stage of the conference: multilateral talks with Israel on issues like water, arms control, refugees, and the environment.

Meanwhile, at the end of an Iranian-sponsored conference in Tehran on Palestine, hardline factions demanded an armed struggle to destroy the state of Israel. In a closing statement they called for "total liberation of occupied lands, eliminating of the Zionist existence and creation of an independent Palestinian state".

## Baghdad promises cheap food

Baghdad — The Iraqi government promised yesterday that it was sending huge quantities of cheap food to shops that have been stripped bare by panic buying. The government media said meat, chicken and eggs were on their way to government shops where the controlled prices are about a quarter of those on a nervous free market.

Newspapers said the authorities had rounded up a gang which made a killing when rumours of more shortages pushed up prices and cleared stock out of both government and private shops. "They will be transferred to the concerned authority to be punished," *al-Thawra*, which is published by the ruling Baath party, reported.

*Babil*, a newspaper owned by President Saddam Hussein's son, Uday, said shops run by the trade unions were receiving foodstuffs such as tea, rice, sugar, tomato paste and lentils for sale at government prices. It criticised the "unpatriotic conduct of some profiteers who have no concern for the country's interest".

Queues formed at government shops at midday for the monthly rations of sugar, rice, flour, tea, meat and chicken to which state employees are entitled. But even when these shops are fully stocked, they meet only about one-third of basic needs. On the free market, demand usually outstrips supply. Rationing has been in force since the Gulf war.

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## Bridge of peace fails to heal rift

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN TABA, SINAI

HOPES that this 750-yard stretch of Sinai coastline would become a "bridge of peace" between Israelis and Egyptians have been dashed by the bitter experience of trying to reconcile the lifestyles and cultural differences of the two former enemies.

When the luxury 13-storey Israeli hotel and other beach facilities were handed back to Egypt in March, 1989, Tahseen Bashir, an Egyptian commentator, expressed aspirations that the two races would mix in a relaxed atmosphere. The reality has fallen depressingly short. Daily life in the last chunk of Israeli-occupied land handed back to Egypt in exchange for peace augurs badly for the chances of any lasting success at next week's Middle East conference in Madrid.

Only five of the 300 staff now working at the hotel are still Israelis. The others left or were dismissed under strict implementation of Egypt's labour laws.

The warning signals were there from the moment the Egyptian flag was raised. Egyptian workers chanted: "Taba today, Palestine tomorrow", while members of the Israeli staff burnt tyres in a bizarre imitation of the Palestinian intifada.

Situated only ten minutes from the Israeli town of

Elilat, but a punishing five-hour drive from Cairo, the hotel is usually less than half full. Yesterday, it had a curiously haunted feel as the under-employed staff wandered vacuously among the palm trees and the poorly maintained equipment.

The Egyptian government still classifies information about the number of visitors to Israel as a security issue and maintains an international border north of Taba that can take would-be guests at the hotel up to an hour to cross. "The Egyptian guards employ every bit of red tape and make it clear they do not like where you are coming from," said one European visitor.

Since the 1979 Camp David treaty, about one million Israelis have toured the pyramids but few Egyptians other than journalists, diplomats and tour operators have visited Israel. Typically, in a relationship which has got worse since the treaty was signed, both sides blame each other.

Israelis accuse the Egyptians of erecting such formidable bureaucratic obstacles that tourist visas to cross into Israel are virtually impossible to obtain. For its part, Egypt claims that few of its citizens want to visit Israel, even less since the repression of the intifada began in 1987.







# Secrets of successful ageing

State pensions are not enough to ensure care for an ageing population — but is private insurance the answer? Thomson Prentice reports

Health pundits call it "successful ageing" and it means staying reasonably fit and independent until almost the end of our days. For many of us, life will prove to be less kind, but how do we improve the chances of a ripe, and secure old age?

The question acutely concerns many of Britain's elderly population. William Waldegrave, the health secretary, yesterday withdrew his suggestion that tax concessions for the over-60s who take out private health insurance might be cut. He was overruled by the government after his initial remarks irritated Norman Lamont, the Chancellor of the Exchequer. But the confusion provoked by Mr Waldegrave's comments have led to anxiety among many people considering health insurance.

Britain is a greying population, with nine million people aged over 65. Consequently, more people are at risk from the health problems of old age, including heart attacks and strokes, multiple sclerosis, diabetes and cancer — and the cost of care is rising. At the same time hospital geriatric wards are being closed and the emphasis is being put on care within the community, and on privately run nursing homes.

So what plans should we be making to ensure that we spend our declining days in our own homes, or that we can then afford to be housed and looked after elsewhere?

One solution now on offer is that we insure against old age in a revolutionary way. In the past few months, a number of insurance companies have for the first time produced policies specifically shaped to cover the costs of long-term treatment, care and support for the elderly.

"Insurance against old age and all that may come with it has been redefined," says John Castagno, of Aetna UK, a subsidiary of one of America's biggest medical insurers. "People have got to think about their whole life-span. We may live 20 or more years after retirement, and a pension may not be enough."

None of the new insurance plans will cover existing chronic illnesses, meaning persistent, long-lasting and incurable conditions such as chronic arthritis, chronic bronchitis, multiple sclerosis, senile dementia and Parkinson's disease. Cover applies only if such an illness is diagnosed after the patient has taken out a policy. And as joining after the age of 75 is usually not permitted, it is obvi-

ously an advantage to take one out while still in good health.

With this in mind, Aetna is aiming at the 40-65 age group. With minimum monthly contributions of £20, policyholders are covered for the costs of being cared for at home, or in a nursing home, of up to £1,800 a month.

Commercial Union, one of Aetna's rivals, launched a series of plans in June, aimed at a similar age group, although one of them is open to people aged up to 74. The Well-Being scheme, is designed for 40-65s, and pays for care services either at home or in a residential establishment. The CU Health-Wise scheme, for the over-60s, provides cover of up to £60,000 for medical treatment, and has no upper age limit. The Third Age Initiative, also from

**'People have got to think about their whole life-span. A pension may not be enough'**

CU, provides for long-term care, life and disability insurance and medical expenses.

Benefits are also payable if the policyholder suffers from certain mental illnesses such as Alzheimer's disease, the commonest form of senile dementia, and needs continual supervision. Premiums start at £20 a month.

Last week Prime Health, a subsidiary of Municipal General Insurance, produced its long-term care package which has no minimum age and which can cover all needs, including hospital treatment and nursing home care. The company sought the expertise of a professor of geriatrics to develop its scale of qualifying disabilities.

The monthly cost to join at the age of 50 to cover home care services is £28. That rises to £45 a month for those joining at the age of 60, £61 a month at 65, and £107 at 75, the upper age limit. All such schemes begin to pay out only after the policyholder has been newly diagnosed as having a disability or disease that requires care provision. There will be some form of assessment, such as the individual's ability to perform a number of normal daily activities — for example, getting out of bed unaided, or washing, feeding and

dressing without help. The Prime Health list of disabilities includes blindness, deafness and loss of dexterity.

All of these deals are a gamble by the insurers. They are asking millions of us, many still relatively young, to start investing large sums of money against the day, sometime in the next century, when we may need expensive and lengthy medical care.

The unstated belief of the insurers is that we will not get what we need from the government. In *The Challenges of Ageing*, a report published last month by the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry (ABPI), researchers say: "Whatever the colour of the government, long-term care of elderly people seems set to develop as a sector predominantly supplied by private and voluntary organisations. It is also likely to be increasingly privately funded, with state funding concentrated on providing a safety net for elderly people without means of their own."

William Laing, a health economist and a co-author, says in the report: "It is important to emphasise that the government's attitude towards long-term care differs fundamentally from its attitude towards acute health care services."

"Whereas the NHS reforms involve a clear commitment to a comprehensive, publicly funded system of acute health care, largely free at the point of delivery, there is no such commitment to long-term care."

This prospect worries charities such as Help The Aged and Age Concern, despite such evidence of government commitments to long-term care as the increases in residential care funding announced this week by Tony Newton, the social security secretary. The allowances, ranging from £160 to £250 a week, will rise by £15 a week next year.

The average cost of nursing home care currently is about £13,000 a year, and the average pension is about £3,000 a year.

Wendy Wakefield, of Help The Aged, says: "To bridge the gap, many of today's elderly have to sell their home and surrender their savings. Insurance schemes for long-term care are far beyond the means of many people, so it is essential that the NHS continues to provide free access to such care, and that local authorities put sufficient funding into community care at home, or into appropriate care in residential or nursing homes. The old people of Britain deserve nothing less."



Mike Hall, a researcher and co-author of the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry (ABPI) report, *The Challenges of Ageing*, offers a "Four Es" recipe for retarding the ageing process:

- Early diagnosis of diseases likely to afflict old people, such as cancer, diabetes, high blood pressure, osteoporosis.
  - Elimination of known factors that endanger health, such as smoking, obesity, poor diet, drug or alcohol abuse.
  - Education to bring about healthy changes in lifestyle.
  - Encouragement of more research into degenerative conditions, such as Alzheimer's disease and Parkinson's disease.
- John Griffin, the director of the ABPI says: "Successful ageing, in the sense of maintaining independence until close to death, appears to be a

realistic goal. The majority of old people are active and healthy. More than 150,000 people in Britain are aged over 90, and one in five of them are still driving cars."

Good health in old age depends on a list of factors, including diet, weight control and exercise, according to World Health Organisation recommendations endorsed by the United Kingdom's health department.

- Diet: Eat enough to maintain normal weight, include plenty of vegetables, fruits and calcium-rich foods. Cut down on fats and salt.
- Exercise: Take some regularly. Even a daily walk improves self-esteem, mobility and cardiovascular function, and reduces risks linked to osteoporosis.
- Smoking: Don't.
- Social contact: Stimulates mental and physical activity, encourages a healthier lifestyle.

## Happy as a sandboy

Can't take the strain? Get in a sandpit

The therapy room in analyst Joel Ryce-Menuhin's house looks like a child's delight. There are two sandtrays and an assortment of miniature figures — toy cars, trees, animals, bridges, people.

The sandtrays and the toys are not meant for children; they are said to be the latest way of enabling adults to come to terms with a crisis, such as bereavement, divorce, redundancy — or to help those who feel they have never fulfilled their potential.

Mr Ryce-Menuhin trained as a Jungian analyst and discovered the "wonderful therapy" of sandplay, a technique developed by the Swiss therapist Dora Kalff. In sandplay, patients simply construct what they wish with the sand and the toys available. "The figures that patients pick out will be symbolic of something important in their lives," Mr Ryce-Menuhin says. "Divorces who can't recover from the trauma of a marriage breakup often trace the pattern of their marriage by using the figures. As the weeks go by, we find that the constructions start to develop, like a play."

"While they are constructing, I sit in the background taking notes, and saying nothing. I always take photographs, so that there will be a permanent record."

The therapeutic aspect comes, of course, from interpretation of the designs and constructions patients make. "I have to be careful," Mr Ryce-Menuhin says, "not to start to interpret too quickly, or to ask leading questions. Through using the figures, people begin to see patterns in their lives which have eluded them before. Then decisions and choices people have made start to fall into place, and they can lose their bitterness and anger."

"The point of sandplay is that it helps people use their imagination, rather than relying on rational thought process. And this can bring about breakthroughs in understanding. It is enjoyable and not seen as threatening, as traditional analysis often is."

Children are occasionally allowed into the Jungian sandpit. Mr Ryce-Menuhin considers it particularly useful with adolescents.

LIZ HODGKINSON

● *Jungian Sandplay: The Wonderful Therapy*, by Joel Ryce-Menuhin, is published by Routledge at £12.99.

## The fear of death by fear

THE belief that people can die of a broken heart is accepted; doctors are well aware that the increase in the mortality and morbidity among near relatives of a recently died patient is not only the result of being chilled in the church or at the graveside but is related to bereavement.

To conduct controlled research on the effect of emotion on disease patterns is always difficult, however. The Gulf war has proved an opportunity to test another well-established belief, hitherto equally difficult to prove, that patients can be frightened to death.

Usually in a battle or air raid those deaths which have occurred by heart disease induced by fear have passed without much comment or later research, as the doctor's attention has been directed to the far greater number who have died, or been maimed, as the



**MEDICAL BRIEFING**  
Dr Thomas Stuttford

direct result of enemy action. The short-lived bombardment of Israel by Scud missiles, which caused comparatively little damage and few casualties but general alarm, was an unusual opportunity to study the effect of fear on heart attack rates.

A team of Tel Aviv doctors working in one of the district hospitals has reported in *The Lancet* on the incidence of acute myocardial infarction

(coronaries) and sudden death among Israeli civilians in the community. The report analyses the numbers treated in the coronary care unit and by the mobile intensive care ambulance during the week of the Iraqi missile war.

No missiles actually fell in the catchment area of the doctor's hospital but the possibility of imminent death resulted, not unreasonably, in anxiety which was intense, sustained, and widespread. The study compares the week of the bombardment to other weeks before and after it, and similar weeks in other years. The sudden death rate in the community was doubled during the crucial week and there was a threefold increase in the rate of admission to the coronary care unit at the hospital, but once patients had been admitted, the mortality rate was comparable to that of other years.

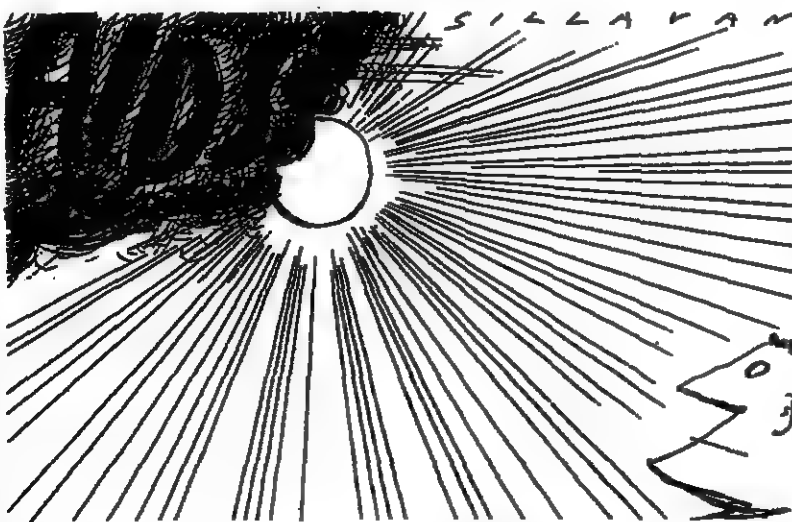
## Comfort and possible joy

MICHAEL CASHMAN, the actor who became known to millions when playing a homosexual role in the television series *EastEnders*, returns to the East End tomorrow when he opens the Graham Hayton Unit, the HIV out-patient clinic which is attached to the Ambrose King Centre at the Royal London Hospital in Whitechapel.

Mr Hayton was one of the early patients of the clinic but never allowed Aids to destroy his enthusiasm. Despite his illness, he became one of the founder members of Frontliners and helped to write a patients' manual *Living With Aids*. Mr Cashman, who despite brickbats and even the occasional brick, has championed the cause of gay rights and Aids charities, was an old friend of Mr Hayton.

Interior decorators have ensured that the Graham Hayton Unit is as comfortable and relaxing as any VIP airport lounge, albeit without the free drinks, but the 140 patients who regularly use, and help to determine the policy, in the unit are always assured of coffee, advice and, if needed, a medical consultation. The atmosphere in the unit refutes recent reports that British doctors and nurses find it difficult to talk to homosexual patients even when fit, yet alone ill.

The London Hospital is taking part in the Medical Research Council multi-centre trial of the new drug DDI (didoxynosine). The drug is, as yet, unlicensed for general use in Britain but recently, in response to a campaign by the Aids lobby, was made available in the United States, even before safety trials were completed, for the treatment of patients with advanced dis-



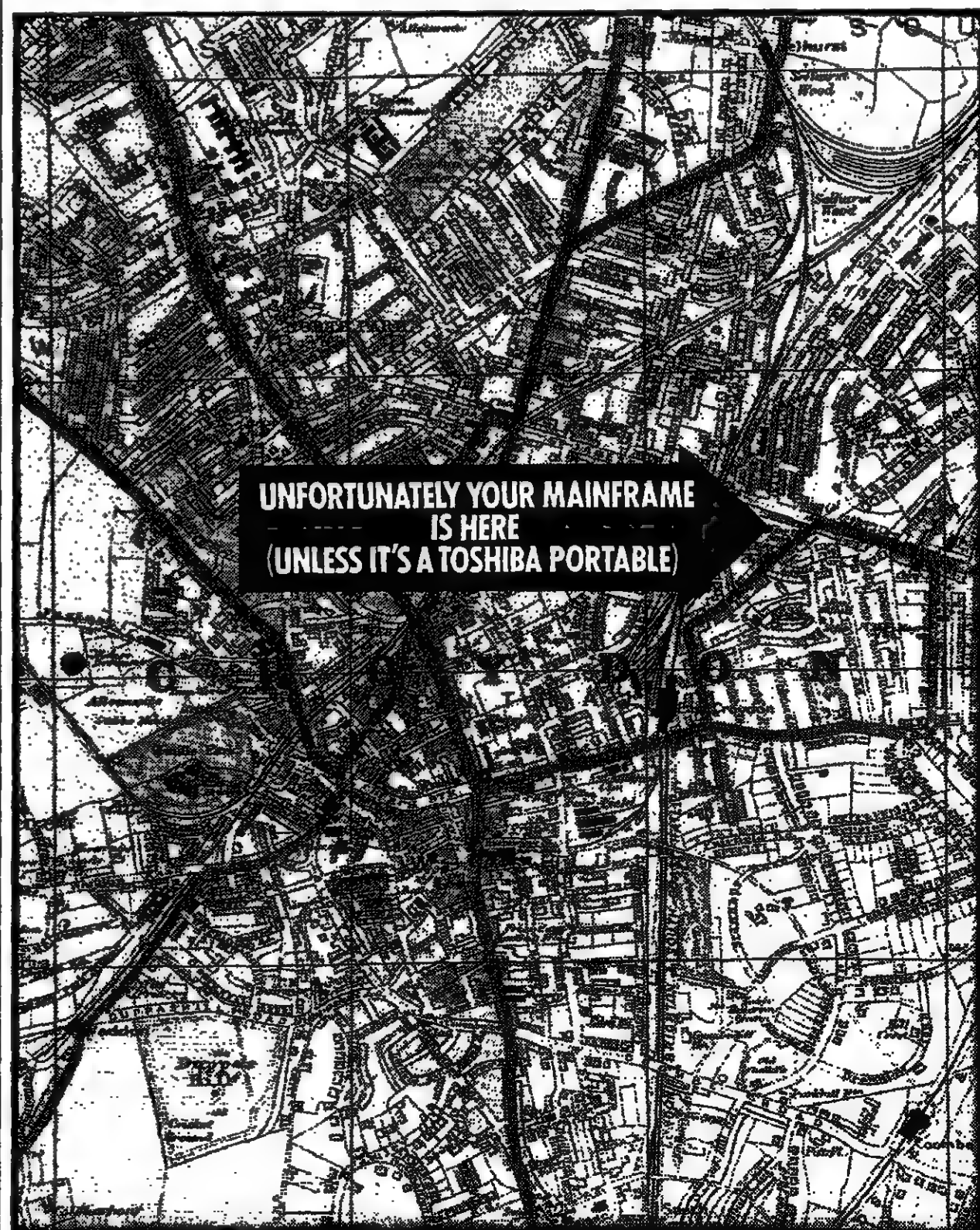
ease who had failed to respond to standard treatment with the Wellcome drug AZT.

The London trials are designed to compare the efficacy of DDI when used in isolation, or in combination with AZT. It is possible that the use of more than one drug simultaneously, combination therapy, will prove as useful in the treatment of Aids as it has in the treatment of malignant disease. Although drug therapy cannot as yet cure Aids it slows the course of the disease and patients are undoubtedly living longer.

Experience at the Ambrose King Centre has shown that early treatment of Aids-related opportunistic infections has resulted in patients not only having a longer life but a more active one. It is becoming increasingly apparent that as doctors can now influence the course of the disease, the earlier policy of discouraging widespread testing is detrimental to the individual patient as well as to the community.

## Danger from fast food

BEEF farmers have had a rough few years. No sooner has the alarm over BSE died down, the *BMJ* reports, than a new anxiety has crossed the Atlantic. A form of food poisoning, due to verocytotoxin, a toxin produced by some pathogenic strains of the gut organism *E. coli*, has been diagnosed in some recent British outbreaks. These strains of *E. coli*, often found in undercooked beef, often cause no more than an upset tummy but in children under five or the elderly diarrhoea can be followed by a syndrome of acute kidney failure, haemolytic anaemia, and thrombocytopenia (a bleeding tendency). In a recent outbreak in England affecting 24 patients who ate fast-food burgers, three developed the dangerous haemolytic-uraemic syndrome.



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# There is wonder here

Philip Howard on the young poet, something new out of Africa, who won the Booker with a fantasy that we are miracles God made

THE FAMISHED ROAD  
By Ben Okri  
Jonathan Cape, £13.99

The spirit-child is an unwilling adventurer into chaos and sunlight, into the dreams of the living and the dead. Then he finds himself in the Guildhall in the heart of the City of London after a lavish dinner one October, before an audience of 400 of the great and good literati, being told that he has been awarded the Booker Prize for fiction, and being grilled by the Cyclops eye of television, and barked at by the rotters and spaniels of the interviewing pack. So he wakes up with a bang, and does his stuff with dignity and charm, and drinks too much rice wine, and spent yesterday in bed with a terrible hangover, seeing none of his frequent petitioners.

Ben Okri is a true poet, and he has written a poetical magical fantasy about growing up in Nigeria. Middle-brow readers who like a strong narrative line and a good read, and dialogue that carries the story forward will find *The Famished Road* almost as hard to read as they did when Keri Hulme won the Booker with her prose poem about Maori myth and life, *The Bone People*, in 1985. Cynics grumble that the British literary scene is the last refuge of colonialism. We have exported our notion of a good Trollopean, Jane Austen read to the farthest corners of our old Empire, and now it comes back to haunt us with our literary prizes being won by Australians, Indians, South Africans, and now Nigerians, writing chatty little English novels in an exotic tone of voice. Meanwhile the highbrow novels of ideas and the intellect and philosophy that are written and read and that win the prizes among our new partners on the mainland of Europe are unsaleable and unread over here. It is a bookseller's axiom (not entirely true) that French novels don't sell in Grande Bretagne. The alleged lack of novels of ideas on the shortlist was the reason that Nicolas Mosley gave for resigning as a judge of the Booker.

Not even a cynic would describe *The Famished Road* as a good read. It is a difficult read, a brilliant read, unlike anything you have ever read before. What does seem to be the bookish case is that there is a great taste both in the United Kingdom and in the United States for novels written from a different culture and idiom of English. Hispanic and West Indian and African novels go big guns in the States. Salman Rushdie is, among other things, a great story-teller. He was educated at Rugby and Cambridge. He has lived and worked here for a long time, for the last thousand days forced to live as a hostage in his own country, under wretched sentence of death from a foreign government. But he tells his stories in a very Indian tone of voice. Five of the six novels on



Ben Okri, winner of the Booker Prize, wakes up to a world where the ocean is full of songs, the sky is not an enemy

this year's Booker short-list were in this potent cross-cultural genre. The winner was a Nigerian Londoner. Timothy Mo is half Cantonese from Hong Kong, Mill Hill, and St John's, Oxford. Rohinton Mistry, with his enchanting first novel about Parsi *Wellschlaug*, was born in Bombay and emigrated to Toronto when he was 23. William Trevor is a wild goose professional exile from Ireland who lives in Devon. But his obsessions are all Irish. Roddy Doyle is a resident Dubliner, and My Jaisys is a German-American. But he does not fool us. Fee, fie, fo, fum, we smell the prose of an Englishman.

There is a legend in southern Nigeria about the abiku, a child who continually dies and is continually

reborn to the grief of his parents. You can find the same legend in Wordsworth's "trailing clouds of glory", and Victorian gravestones for children, and, come to that, Plato. This is the running theme of *The Famished Road*, as Azaro, the Nigerian spirit-child, resists his longing to return from the rigours of existence to the spirit world, where everything is so much better. He decides to stay, "to bring a smile upon the face of his mother". This takes place somewhere that feels like a shanty town on the outskirts of Lagos around 1960.

But the message is universal, as well as particular to Africa. There are wars and lorry accidents, burnings and riots. But there are also schools and palm-wine bars, police-stations and groves. Azaro's must-be-the-greatest father wins stupendous victories in the ring against ghosts. There are ghosts everywhere and lizards, spies and messengers from the dream world,

and symbols of transformation. Through all the tumult and exploitation and suffering of the slum-dwellers and black people runs the road of our existence as transient passengers (or commuters) on planet Earth. But like the novel, the road does not run in a straight line. Each generation and individual must start again from scratch. There is a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted. Things that are not ready, not willing to be born or to become, things for which adequate preparations have not been made to sustain their momentous births, things that are not resolved, things bound up with failure and with fear of being, they all keep recurring, keep coming back, and in themselves partake of the spirit-child's condition.

They keep coming and going till their time is right. History itself fully demonstrates how things of the world partake of the condition of the spirit-child.

Victoria Glendinning tells Mailer to go and hit someone

On page 857 of Norman Mailer's new novel, the first-person narrator Harry Hubbard reads over his manuscript: "Had I read every page? I did not know that I had to." Your reviewer knew damn well that she had to, all the way to page 1,122 where Harry, confessing that he does not want his memoir ever to end, takes his leave with the words "to be continued". Unlike God, he says, he hasn't been able to present all of his creation.

Harry agrees with Hugh Montague, his godfather and CIA boss (code-name "Harlot"), that the evidence for evolution may be a complex system of disinformation calculated by God to conceal Himself. This novel may be a complex system of disinformation calculated to conceal Mailer. It is about the activities of the CIA in the 1950s and 60s, taking in Kennedy's election to the presidency, the attempts to bump off Castro, and the Bay of Pigs crisis. Just how Mailer knows so much about the Agency's operations, training programme, communications network and arcane private mythology, without being part of it, is a mystery.

It is a book about deception, perpetrated not only in order to confound the enemy outside communism — but the enemy within. These CIA spooks distrust one another, work against one another, spread false information and conceal what they know. Everyone, even the heroic Harlot (apparently based on real-life spook J. J. Angleton) is potentially a double agent. Harry our narrator, hand-reared and Yale-educated for the CIA by his godfather and his "charismatic" father, can effortlessly betray anyone, especially the people he loves.

Harry Hubbard is from patrician WASP stock. His father, a close friend of CIA director Allen Dulles (Mailer names real names all the time), is the godlike sort of man whom bar-tenders rush to serve, who catches 788lb tuna off Key West, and who wears Savile Row tweeds with leather patches. This is not Mailer's usual reference group. "Social sorrow" — the path of social unacceptability — is identified in this book as "insufficiently recognised as one of the major passions". While Mailer does not endorse the attitudes of the privileged Hubbards, he is obsessed by them with an obsession not unlike love, as spies are by their opposite numbers.

Young Harry is initiated into the upper-class male mysteries by his father and godfather in a series of dangerous physical ordeals — skiing, rock-climbing — and when, running with his fit, bronzed father on Miami Beach, he realises they are at least equals as men, there is an embarrassing moment of masculine bonding involving masochism-wrestling and mock-box-

## Social spooks in the system

HARLOT'S GHOST  
By Norman Mailer  
Michael Joseph, £15.99

ing: "God, we loved one another."

All this seems more from Man than from God. The fascinated, rivalrous mutual admiration society of men locked in a clandestine closed system, over-estimating both themselves and each other, is a theme; there are parallels made between the CIA blue-bloods and the knights errant of medieval romance. The subtext of this vast book is a hopeless longing for a father, a godfather, a God — or an American — that can be trusted. But like all Mailer's messages it is scrambled in the interests of security, and he has missed a chance to write the book of his life.

Some sections are composed in a complex and lyrical prose ("Druid certainties left their flush then on my heart"). There are long, straight stretches of researched reporting and description — Maine, Virginia, Washington, Berlin,

Montevideo, Moscow. These are the best bits.

Some of the action is conveyed in extremely long private letters, full of direct speech and elaborate narrative and not in the least like real letters. Much of the rest consists of transcripts of telephone calls and bugged conversations, stiff with acronyms, cryptonyms, code-phrases, and ellipsis. To learn so costively what Frank Sinatra and Jack Kennedy liked to do in bed robs the information of its fictitious thrill.

Later in life Harry marries the beautiful wife of his godfather; she is appositely working on a thesis about what she calls the alpha and omega of personality, loyalty and treachery. Naturally, he betrays her. Harry's sexual life is seen at uncomfortably close quarters. It's very sticky and hairy. Misogyny lies just under the surface of the expressed ecstasy. Homosexuality in its most degrading manifestations is graphically contemplated. Harry suspects that lust is a way of "releasing the tons of mediocrity within oneself". All in all, it's enough to convert one to vegetarianism.

Sex apart, there's not much violence — and "the dreary and open wound of verbosity", according to *Harlot's Ghost*, is "only staunching by violence". Mailer should know. He is the man who, in the period covered by this haemorrhage of a volume, was a leftist dissident and a notorious drinker, wild-damper and brawler. Perhaps, for his writing's sake, he should go out and punch somebody.



Mailer, Iron Man of fiction, with scrambled message

## Mantraps of Irish heritage

This is the Cavan and Fermanagh border. The youth who has The Run of the Country finds it a place of wild liberty and casual brutality. Order and confinement come from a Garda police sergeant, who is his father and puts him in jail. On the boundary of fear and violence, this sensitive human beast breaks into a love affair with a girl named from a local

turns out to be the walls of an inflatable balloon. Filled with hot air from the steam engine, the aircraft waits the woman away from her three musketeers of oneness.

Always diverting, absolutely consequential, John Fuller writes away the time in *Look Twice* by sleight of pen and false mirror. For him, the illusion of all illusions is that there is a better world. As we

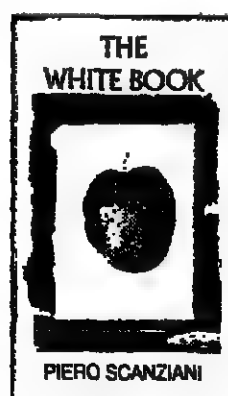
don't have it, he creates one in which stage magic makes actual transformations. The final trick is the empty coffin, but that only produces a longer life. Textermination is literary history as Racing Demon. Christine Brooke-Rose shuffles her authors and their characters through time as if they were playing cards. The two Emmas, Woodhouse and Bovary, find themselves travelling with *Boule de Suif* and Augustin Mesaulier and Clara Harlow. A cast of thousands is contained in hundreds of paragraphs conversing in dozens of paragraphs to reach no conclusions, only infinite suggestions. How do all the people we read about get along in the jumble sale of

our minds? And how in the ruck of personalities who scrimmage for our attention can we select a few for friends? Late in *Textermination*, a rebellion of television and film characters, which has promised excitement, fizzles out. The deluge of folk from written texts overwhelm them. A culmination is the appearance of a fictional author, Nathan Zuckerman. He puts down his fellow time-travellers. "Characters," he says, "don't read other books." And indeed, there are too many characters in this book to read it. There is, however, the pleasure of seeing how many of them are recognisable. *Textermination* is not the end of the text. It is a bibliophile's Trivial Pursuit.

ANDREW SINCLAIR

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By John Fuller

Chatto & Windus, £13.99

TEXTERMINATION

By Christine Brooke-Rose

Corgi, £12.95

Shane Connaughton knows his place and his people, who are bred in the bone and sinew of their rough land. Savage scenes of cock fights alternate with black comedy and a painful awareness of the obstinacy of things. It seems a hell of a way to grow up. This is a bloody tale about a bloody area, but the occasional stabs of passion and understanding strike home like the bayonets stuck in the ground as goal-posts, when the Irish last plays football with the local police.

*Look Twice* is called an entertainment by John Fuller in the mode of Graham Greene, so that we do not confuse it with his serious work. And this is really entertaining about illusionists and Balkan intrigue. On a train leaving a revolution, four men are put in a compartment — naturally, one is a woman wearing a moustache. It is suggested that they are in hell, defined as not having any desire to be anywhere. To pass the time, they tell the stories of their lives, which are enigmas and fantasies.

The train is stopped by bandits. They must escape. After all the paradoxes and puzzles and parables and pretty philosophies, they discover that a magic panorama

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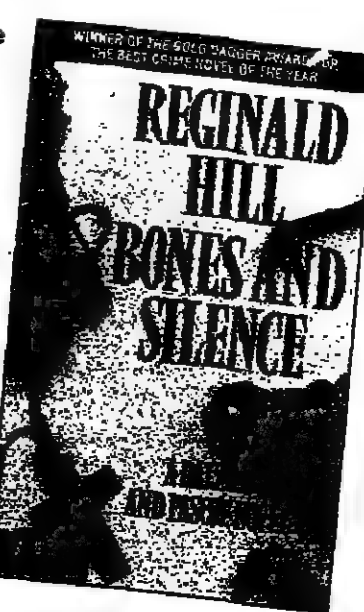
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## CINEMA: NEW RELEASES

# A conqueror loses his way in Hollywood

Geoff Brown reviews Kenneth Branagh's *Dead Again*, *Homicide*, *Boyz n the Hood*, *Flirting* and *Docteur Petiot*

He came, he filmed, he conquered. For two weeks, Kenneth Branagh's first American film as director, *Dead Again* (15, Empire, Whiteleys), topped the nation's box office, before being supplanted in audiences' affections by the fifth spin-off from *A Nightmare on Elm Street*. For a lad from Belfast, with relatively little film experience, this is some achievement. Yet no law insists that popular success and quality film-making go hand in hand: on this occasion, Branagh has wooed the crowds with a monstrous preening peacock of a suspense thriller, strenuously styled after the Hollywood Forties model.

Murder, amnesia, reincarnation, classical music: these vintage ingredients fill the script's labyrinth. Branagh, carrying a light American accent, portrays a fast-talking LA private detective. Under his wing, and into his heart, comes a speechless, pretty amnesiac (played with more blankness than necessary by his wife, Emma Thompson).

During hypnosis sessions with a key antiques dealer (Derek Jacobi), Thompson relives the past of a famous pianist, stabbed to death with scissors in the late Forties after a tempestuous marriage to German émigré composer Roman Strauss (Branagh again, carrying a light German accent and a beard). Strauss was hanged for her murder, but did he really do it? And what of the devoted housekeeper (Hanna Schygulla), or Andy Garcia's seedy reporter, or Robin Williams's deranged psychiatrist — all of whom seem to have strayed from three different films?

Branagh attacks this nonsense with the same fondness for pastiche and overkill that dragged down *Henry V*. After treading in Olivier's footsteps, Branagh now tries on Orson Welles's shoes. Angled shots, symbolic objects, slow-motion spurts and scissors galore are hurled at our eyes: the film's brio may temporarily amuse, but the level of artifice soon becomes stifling. Among the

carnival of actors, Jacobi gets the best turn as the velvet-voiced antiques dealer; with Mr and Mrs Branagh, we are much too aware of the forced charm, and the dialect coach.

*Homicide* (15, Cannon Pantons Street, Screen on the Hill) boasts a much higher IQ. This is David Mamet's third venture as a writer-director. "The idea," he says, "was to do a police movie with some spiritual overtones"; the mixture may not gel, but forceful dialogue, direction and playing still make this a film to reckon with. Not for Mamet a camera with St Vitus's dance; he trains the lens tight on these New York cops, Joe Mantegna

in its pursuit of imprisonment, grandiose despair, *Mortal Thoughts* pumps up the situations more than they can logically stand: given the hideous Willis's track record, would not a self-defence plea get the ladies off? Yet the acting is so alert, and the images so satisfying, that one readily goes along for the ride.

*Boyz n the Hood* (15, Cannon Haymarket, Whiteleys) has been making a noise ever since American screenings sparked gang violence. The director, John Singleton, is a 23-year-old hot-shot, with a Columbia contract under his belt. But those expecting a firebrand urban portrait are in for a disappointment. So many scenes trip themselves up with obvious plays for sentiment that Singleton seems to be Stanley Kramer reborn.

Like that veteran Hollywood liberal, Singleton shapes his film to carry a Big Message. The key to preventing urban delinquency is a stable family. Yet earnest sermons from dad (Larry Fishburne) cannot stop Cube Gooding Jr getting sucked into the

gang wars of south central Los Angeles — just when a college scholarship looms, too.

Singleton's script may creak, but he scores points for atmosphere. Circling helicopters, wailing sirens and distant gunfire clog these drab streets; you can almost smell the menacing air. As the neighbourhood boys of the title, Gooding Jr proves a bothersome presence (a prematurely furrowed brow does not help), but rap artist Ice Cube displays unexpected power as Doughboy.

The week's most agreeable film is *Flirting* (12, Cannons Chelsea, Piccadilly, Tottenham Court Road): a boarding-school tale of great charm and humour from Australian writer-director John Duigan. His hero hails from *The Year My Voice Broke*, a success in the late Eighties. Now the year is 1965: the sensitive spark is a fifth-former, devouring Camus, suffering bullies and conducting a shy romance with a Ugandan student.

After an avalanche of youth-movie fluff from Hollywood, Duigan still finds fresh things to say about adolescence. The period helps: modern teen-

agers could never be as innocent as these pimply lads, worshippers at the altar of Ursula Andress. Duke Ellington's "The Mooche" seems strange accompaniment to a girls' dancing class, but Duigan gets most other details right: the lavatory joshing, the teacher obsessed with model planes, the class joker with wires on all teeth. Noah Taylor makes a sweet, gangling hero: as his flame, English-born Thandie Newton lights up the screen with youthful sensuality.

No space to do justice to *Docteur Petiot* (12, Everyman), a bizarre excavation of a notorious French murderer, who lured many Jews to a terrible end (poison, quicklime) with offers to help them escape the Nazi occupation. Christian de Chalonge's film never probes into Petiot's psychology; we must cope unsaid with this perplexing character, scurrying like a vampire round a city of eternal gloom. Michel Serrault gives an extraordinary performance: madcap, hypnotic, deeply chilling. De Chalonge artfully meshes occupied Paris with the nightmare style of German Expressionism. Forget *Dead Again*: here is outlandish cinema with a sting.

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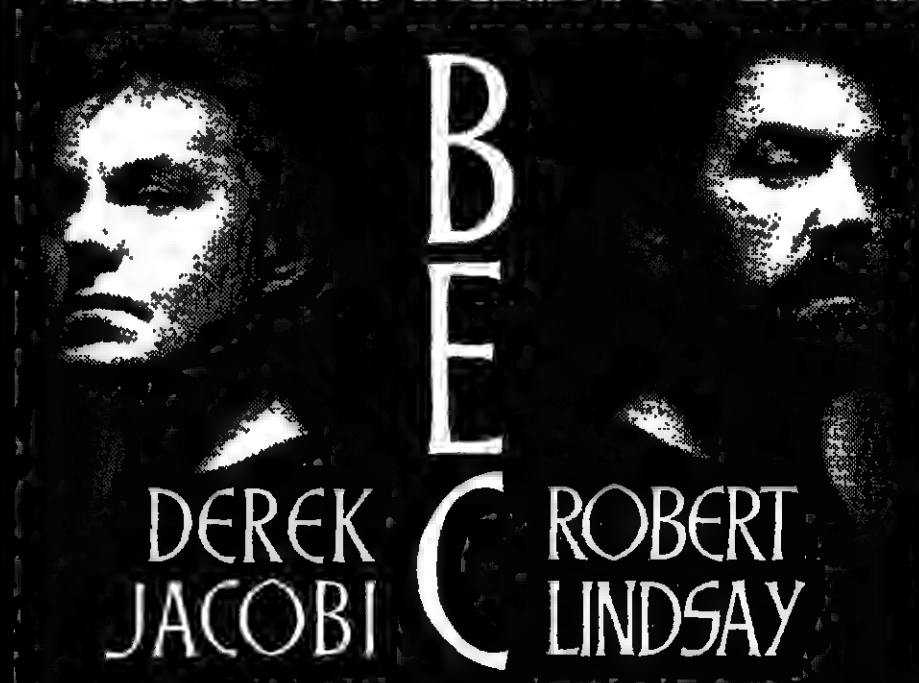
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Closely examining past lives, and death: Kenneth Branagh (left), Derek Jacobi and Emma Thompson in Branagh's American directing debut, *Dead Again*

"TWO OF THE BEST RÔLES EVER WRITTEN FOR ACTORS AT THE HEIGHT OF THEIR POWERS" LBC



"Derek Jacobi's mercurial Becket...GRIPS OUR IMAGINATION" Evening Standard  
"Jacobi is the MASTER OF ENIGMATIC EMOTION. He is the embodiment of profound intelligence. His casting, therefore, is almost PRE-ORDAINED IN ITS PERFECTION" Daily Mail  
"Lindsay's performance, a marvellously restless blend of POWER AND VULNERABILITY, RAGE AND SELF-MOCKERY" Times  
"Lindsay is A MOST EXTRAORDINARY ACTOR. He is possessed of A DANCING HUMOUR, A DARTING INTUITION AND A DARING PRESENCE" Daily Mail

By JEAN ANOUILH

"THEY ARE MESMERISING" Daily Mail

"It is...a thoroughly well-written piece: WITTY, INTELLIGENT, full of repartee and irreverence" Financial Times

"BUOYANTLY REVIVED BY ELIJAH MOSHINSKY" Guardian

"JEREMY SAMS' WITTY TRANSLATION... deliberately half-cod Black Adderish slant on history" Independent

"An evening for connoisseurs of good acting" Guardian

"A FLUENT, VIVID PLAY WHICH ALLOWS TWO FINE ACTORS... TO GIVE RIVETING PERFORMANCES" Times

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## José jets in

SPANISH tenor José Carreras — one third of the current triumvirate of great tenors — emerges from the shadow of his larger rivals to sing in Glasgow on December 9. Carreras will perform a programme of favourite arias and duets at the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre, partnered by mezzo soprano Claire Powell and the Scottish Opera orchestra and chorus, conducted by Elio Boncompagni. Scottish Opera, which could never afford to hire Carreras for an opera production, will at least benefit from the sale of corporate hospitality packages at the concert.

## Comic offerings

FALSTAFF becomes a bragging satirical in the Japan Festival's next Shakespeare offering, when the Tokyo Globe-Mansaku Company presents a comic Kyogen version of *Falstaff*. Faster

moving and more physical than Noh theatre, Kyogen plays are performed without masks, but keep their elegant 14th century costumes and a strong feeling of farce. This Japanese-language production is in Cardiff on November 8 and 9, complete with simultaneous translation, and at London's Mermaid Theatre for a week starting on November 12.

## Last chance...

PROOF that you can't keep a good song down is Don McLean's 1972 "American Pie" which climbs to No 28 in the charts this week, earning it that all-important slot on tonight's *Top of the Pops*. The folk singer from New York has been touring Britain this month, as he has done regularly since the song first became a hit in 1972. He finishes this week with dates at the Pavilion, Bournemouth (0202 297297) tonight; and at Regent, Ipswich (0473 281480) tomorrow.

## FUNDING

## King of the coffers

Clive Priestley, chairman of the new London Arts Board, wants to revitalise the capital. Simon Tait reports

London arts organisations are receiving their annual forms on which to bid for core subsidy this week. Instead of the nine booklets which were circulated last time, this one is a pragmatic six-pager with few words and a lot of white space for writing in.

The perceived loneliness of Greater London Arts was a large part of what made potential clients — such as the Royal Court, the London orchestras and the ICA — fight against being devolved from the Arts Council to GLA. However, with a new chairman at the head of the London Arts Board, which took over from GLA on October 1, clients are now getting the soft approach. Instead of crates of instruction manuals insisting on strict employment criteria and questioning the political correctness of arts companies, potential new clients are getting a discreet lunch, an afternoon drink, and an urban face familiar from private views and first nights.

The new chairman is Clive Priestley, a former civil servant who, as an under secretary, became a Rayner scrutiniser in Mrs Thatcher's efficiency unit. Eight years ago he examined the books of the Royal Opera House and the Royal Shakespeare Company and found both grossly underfunded. The government was obliged to increase its subsidies, but only for a year.

He then left the corridors of power to become a freelance management consultant and a governor of the RSC, serving on its crucial finance and general purposes committee. He resigned over a question of general management policy and took the London Arts Board chairmanship in April on condition that a seat on the Arts Council went with it. Rumour has it that he was the tenth choice; other potential candidates, such as Joan



Priestley believes London's vibrancy is undercelebrated

London fails to celebrate itself properly. "There is an unmistakable vibrancy about the place," he says, "a feeling of a great city at full stretch for its life and the lives of its natives." He intends to see that vibrancy celebrated in a series of arts festivals which will draw on all the artistic and business resources in London.

Priestley says the amount of subsidy and the way it is disbursed is highly unsatisfactory. "Artistic directors should not be wasting their time chasing sponsorship, not knowing from one year to the next what the subsidy is going to be," he states. "Neither should the status of the stature of the Almeida have to be saved from closure by a private donation [Lloyd Webber's £100,000]. Rather, the chairman would like to see all companies placed on a sound footing with realistic business plans based on realistic incomes.

His board, with Tim Mason, former director of the Scottish Arts Council, as its executive director, cannot be just another adornment for the visiting cards of the worthy, he says. "I want them to feel it is a pleasure to be a member, it has to be fun. If we sit there all po-faced we've failed." He also insists that board members be free of bureaucratic entanglements and political obstacles as they pursue the intellectual argument to ground.

"At our first meeting I said that I thought the watchwords should be 'charity' and 'simplicity' and one member gathered up his papers and walked out. I'm glad to say he came to the next meeting."

ARTS REVIEWS  
Theatre, opera and dance  
Page 22

TIMOTHY WEST JACK SHEPHERD  
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## AN UNACCEPTABLE RISK

The United Nations mission in Cambodia, formally triggered by the signing of the peace settlement in Paris yesterday, has been repeatedly described as the first serious test of President Bush's "new order". The stability of a whole region hinges on it. The five permanent members of the UN Security Council jointly insist that this post cold war experiment in UN peacemaking cannot be allowed to go wrong. That must imply no second chance for the Khmer Rouge to reimpose their singularly murderous form of totalitarianism. Western, and Soviet, prestige is on the line. Yet the immediate prospect is of a dangerous vacuum before the UN arrives in sufficient force.

The plan brokered by the five could not be more ambitious. Under it Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the former ruler, will return to head a Supreme National Council which includes the Phnom Penh regime and all three resistance groups including the Khmer Rouge. That is intended to "embody Cambodian sovereignty" while UNTAC, the UN Transitional Authority for Cambodia, takes effective charge.

The UN is being asked to demobilise and disarm the combatants, start repairs to the shattered infrastructure, provide an interim administration, repatriate 340,000 refugees and prepare and supervise free elections, tentatively scheduled for March 1993. This transition from war to democratic peace must be managed in a country driven back to almost medieval conditions by the genocidal Khmer Rouge and 13 years of civil war, a country riddled with landmines, guerrilla armies and bandits, in treacherous tropical terrain with appalling communications.

The original estimate was that this would entail deploying around 10,000 UN civilians and as many or more UN military, costing from \$2.5 billion. The UN has had months to prepare. Yet the Security Council has so far agreed only to send a 268-strong advance team sometime next month — the number includes 75 local staff — with a mere 50 officers to "liaise" with government and resistance forces put at 150,000. The UN

will wait a further month or so for this team's reconnaissance reports before deciding on the eventual composition and scale of the full UNTAC force. The Security Council has not yet even approved UNTAC's creation, and its first units are not expected to be deployed in under 4½ months.

Set against some UN peacekeeping operations in the "bad old days", when the superpowers were at odds, this is absurdly sluggish. The first 8,000 troops arrived in the Congo in the 1960s within a week of the Security Council decision. It took 18 hours to deploy UN forces in the Middle East in 1973. Reconnaissance should have been done months ago, as soon as there was real hope of concluding the Cambodia agreement. The UN secretariat has a general plan, but has been waiting to discover where the money will come from. Almost none has been pledged and the budget is not due to be discussed until early 1992.

The excuses offered by diplomats for this leisurely timetable are that so great are the political pressures on all sides, so concentrated the limelight on the new Supreme National Council, that a small force may be able to hold the ring and secure co-operation between all factions. Good will should be given a chance. Should the task of reconciliation prove walnut-sized, why send a UN sledgehammer? Regional alignments, in addition, now favour peace. Neither China nor Vietnam has an interest in antagonising the West over Cambodia.

These are all risky assumptions. The Khmer Rouge are already seeking to dominate the Council and tried last week to frogmarch refugees from Thailand into areas they control. They have money and huge stockpiles of arms. When even the best-organised mission cannot be assured of success, this is no time for delay or half-measures. Cambodia has been a "killing field" for its people for too long. It must not be allowed to become the burial ground for the nascent "new world order". Money must be found and men sent not next year but now, while peace has its best chance.

## STRAITJACKET TEAM

The British public now knows what a Labour government would look like. That is the importance of yesterday's elections to the shadow cabinet. If Labour wins office, Neil Kinnock must, under party rules, find cabinet places for everyone elected to the shadow cabinet, even if he does not want them and they are not up to the job.

The inflation of the shadow cabinet from 12 to 18 since Labour last took office in March 1974 means that Mr Kinnock would have much less freedom of manoeuvre than had Harold Wilson, who could at least use the spare places to bring in other talented MPs. In October 1964, seven ministers from the Commons entered the cabinet who were not in the previous shadow cabinet, including Richard Crossman and Barbara Castle.

The requirement to appoint the whole shadow cabinet only applies to the formation of the first cabinet, so early reshuffles can be used to drop unwanted ministers. Portfolios held in opposition can be re-allocated, though that is little help when there is no choice of personnel.

A prime minister is strictly circumscribed. Under the Ministerial Salaries Act only 21 ministers excluding the Lord Chancellor can receive cabinet level pay. Twenty places are committed, including the leader, deputy leader and the 18 elected yesterday. So unless the leader of the Lords is prepared to take a minister of state's salary, Mr Kinnock cannot pick other MPs.

In addition, neither Martin O'Neill, the party's defence spokesman, nor Kevin McNamara, the Northern Ireland spokesman, was elected to the shadow cabinet. So unless one or both those posts are given after the general election to those who were chosen yesterday, there is the ridiculous

possibility that a Labour defence or Northern Ireland secretary would not be full members of the cabinet. A reshuffle of these posts is the obvious solution, though Mr Kinnock is constrained by his pledge to give cabinet seats to a proposed ministry for women and a department for overseas development, now a wing of the Foreign Office.

Election to the shadow cabinet is little indication of ability to govern — a failing that compounds the closed shop that MPs, apart from a few peers, retain over ministerial appointments. Members are not elected on the basis of potential suitability as ministers. Votes reflect personal popularity, performance in the Commons and ideological position. At least three women have to be included, further distorting the process.

The team re-elected unchanged yesterday includes several who are a match for the government frontbench. But only two of the 20, Roy Hattersley and John Smith, have cabinet experience. Six others have been junior ministers or whips. The list includes some of proven ministerial ability. Others of promise are Gordon Brown, Tony Blair, Donald Dewar, Bryan Gould and Jack Straw. But some, such as Frank Dobson, John Prescott and Jo Richardson, do not look like potential cabinet timber.

Mr Kinnock must now go to the electorate admitting that his cabinet would not be one that he would necessarily have freely chosen, even though last night he predictably endorsed all in their current posts. He can try and circumvent the restrictions by juggling the status of some ministers, or put matters right with a quick reshuffle. Either way, Labour's current rules do not strengthen its case to be regarded as a plausible alternative government.

## DARK NIGHTS AT THE OPERA

The Royal Opera House has been forced to postpone tonight's premiere of Meyerbeer's *Les Huguenots*. On the celestial cloud reserved for musical dramatists, the ghost of Wagner (whose hatred of Meyerbeer was extreme) must be smiling. On the larger nimbus assigned to opera spirits, Meyerbeer himself might be penning a new opera, *Les Musiciens* or possibly *Jeremy the Diable*. "What does this fellow Isaac mean by spoiling my revival, when the musicians' only threat was to perform my *Huguenots* uncured, with four intervals?" Wagner's lip curls. "In our day it was the audience that often ruined premieres. Now it is the staff."

Jeremy Isaacs, Covent Garden's general director, had enjoyed an exceptionally good season until a pay dispute with his orchestra, backed by the Musicians' Union, led this week to the indefinite closure of the ROH. Beset by a self-incurred deficit of £1.7 million and the effects of the recession, Mr Isaacs offered his staff what in the circumstances might seem a recklessly generous 5.5 per cent pay rise (no, not pay cut).

This was thought negotiable by everybody except the orchestra, who demanded 24 per cent over two years. This was rejected. The players first refused to wear formal dress, then threatened to disrupt the Meyerbeer and come late to rehearsals. They crowned this by claiming that the money they spend on instruments should be taken into account, though the ROH gives needier players loans for that purpose. Exasperated, Mr Isaacs shut up shop. Acas is mediating.

The management is taking a brave stand against unreasonable demands, but the odds are stacked against it. The dispute's cost, £300,000 a week, is appalling. Mr Isaacs

ought to be able to tell the orchestra: "If we give you what you ask, we will go bankrupt." But so great is the prestige of the Garden, for so long have Mr Isaacs and his predecessors said exactly the same to government, that nobody would believe him. Already the blame for the darkened stage is being laid at the door of government "underfunding".

Covent Garden, in common with most of the great opera houses of Europe and America, suffers all the evils of a union closed shop. A work-to-rule, never mind a strike, will intimidate most managements. There are exceptions. The New York Met closed for a whole season. Mr Isaacs is in good company. He also runs a better opera house on his subsidy than wealthier rivals.

The ROH orchestra, like most others, is partly dependent on London's large pool of freelance musicians. In theory Mr Isaacs could sack the present orchestra and easily recruit another one. Unfortunately the Musicians' Union would almost certainly "black" such players and thus put their livelihoods at risk. This requires the sort of courage from management and artist alike that nobody in the London entertainment business has yet been ready to show.

Should Mr Isaacs stick firm and recruit another orchestra, he should receive full public and government support. The alternative is a Royal Opera House that sinks ever deeper into debt and has to plead with government and sponsors to bail it out. Or perhaps the planned closure for redevelopment in 1996 will offer Mr Isaacs the chance to renegotiate contracts, move into lucrative new areas using electronic media, and force the unions to adapt or wither away.

## Prison contracts out to tender

From Mr John Mortimer, QC, and Miss Frances Crook

Sir, The government is about to award the contract to manage the *Wolds remand centre* in Humberside to a private company — the first time in over a hundred years that a prison has been taken out of public control. Established in 1866, the Howard League recalls the abuse of prisoners and corruption endemic in the disparate systems of managing prisons in the 19th century.

It seems ironic that we entered the 20th century with general agreement that penal institutions had to become a publicly accountable service; and we are leaving the century reverting to people whose prime concern is the pursuit of profit.

The Howard League has conducted the only independent research into the immigration detention centres which have been commercially managed for some 20 years. We found them shrouded by excessive secrecy. There was no proper complaints system for detainees, staff were poorly trained, and indulged in crude racial stereotyping of detainees. The security extended to all financial arrangements and costs.

It has now been reported (October 11) that Group 4, the company responsible for running Harmondsworth detention centre, is likely to win the contract to manage the *Wolds remand centre*. Alternatively, it seems, the contract could be awarded to one of the American concerns who are making only modest profits from their US corrections facilities and want to extend to richer pickings.

Remand prisoners are a frightened and consequently volatile group of people. They know that nearly half of them will not get a custodial sentence when they get to court. The way to prevent suicides and riots is to keep as many people on bail as possible. The Howard League deplores the moves towards privatising the prison system. We believe it is both unprincipled and impractical.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN MORTIMER  
(President-elect),  
FRANCES CROOK (Director),  
The Howard League for Penal Reform,  
708 Holloway Road, N19,  
October 18.

## Net book agreement

From Dr Francis Fishwick

Sir, Mr Sutherland (letter, October 15) knows very well that his own 1965 article on the net book agreement did not end the controversy about it among economists. Some of your readers may be less aware of the widespread support for resale price maintenance, especially in the US economic journals.

If an individual producer believes that the fixing of a minimum resale price will encourage retailers to stock and display the product and support it with ancillary services, then why should he be denied the means of increasing sales? For some products, and many would argue that these include books, resale price maintenance is a competitive weapon. It may be more cost-effective than other means of guaranteeing market exposure, such as unlimited facility to return unsold stock, a feature of the US book trade.

The case against resale price maintenance is superficially very plausible — that competition must produce more efficient distribution. The reluctance of publishers to abandon the NBA indicates continuing belief that (in the words of the Restrictive Practices Court in October 1962) "books are different". More considered economic analysis confirms that this belief is generally correct.

Yours sincerely,  
F. FISHWICK (Reader in Managerial Economics),  
Cranfield School of Management,  
Cranfield Institute of Technology,  
Cranfield, Bedford,  
October 16.

## Once upon a time

From Mr A. V. Sabourin

Sir, Charles Perrault may have "written" Sleeping Beauty, Cinderella, Puss-in-Boots and so on (letter, October 21), but whence came they to him? These are versions of more ancient folk tales, passed down orally from misty origins. Many came from east of Suez, their foundations detectable in "1,001 Nights". More recently, but predating Perrault, some appeared with Neapolitan flavour from the pen of Giambattista Basile (1575-1632).

Sincerely,  
A. V. SABOURIN,  
Manor Cottage, Dowlish Wake,  
Ilminster, Somerset,  
October 21.

## Church investments

From Mr Colin M. Watkins

Sir, It may well be true that bishops receive a total remuneration package of £50,000 per annum (letter, October 15). It is true that clergy receive an average stipend of £12,500 per annum. However, a clergyman's total remuneration package lies somewhere between £18,000 and £20,000 per annum. Like most be compared with like.

Yours faithfully,  
COLIN M. WATKINS,  
Old Stables, Quays Barns,  
Risby, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk,  
October 16.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9KN Telephone 071-782 5000

### Parental choice and race relations

From Sir David Lane

Sir, Having seen examples of successful multicultural education in various parts of the country, I hope that it will not be set back by the outcome of the Cleveland case (report, October 19). The case concerned a mother's request for her five-year-old daughter to be transferred from a school where 60 per cent of the pupils were Asian to one where 98 per cent were white.

The prime minister has proclaimed his admirable goal of an equal-opportunity society in Britain. This will be easier to achieve, so far as race relations are concerned, if children grow up in regular and easy contact with contemporaries of different racial origins from an early age. Any tendency towards segregation in schools will make it harder. The Northern Ireland experience is a grim warning.

This is a difficult and delicate issue, with the Education Act and the Race Relations Act appearing to give conflicting signals. Irrespective of whether Mr Justice Macpherson's ruling stands or is reversed in a higher court, may I suggest that the

government should urgently review the wording of both Acts.

Yours truly,  
DAVID LANE  
(Chairman, Commission for Racial Equality 1977-82),  
5 Spinney Drive,  
Great Shelford, Cambridgeshire.

From Lady Maddocks

Sir, Jenny Carney wished to remove her daughter from a school where the majority were Asian, because she was learning in Hindi; this is a language unlikely to be useful to her and her mother wished her to concentrate on English. This is surely not racial discrimination.

What has been revealed is that in an English school some of the teaching is in Hindi. The majority of children are Asian, but they are British and living in England. Their parents presumably wish them to be taught in English in order to integrate sooner. If they do not, then they are not settling in Britain on the terms that we should be offering.

Yours faithfully,  
PATRICIA MADDOCKS,  
11 Lee Road,  
Aldershot, Suffolk.

### Lessons on choosing aircraft engines

From Sir Charles Hardie

Sir, Lord Caldecote (it should be remembered he was a director of British Aircraft Corporation at the time) complains (letter, October 17) about the cancellation in 1964 of part of the VC10 aircraft order by BOAC, under Sir Giles Guthrie, the then chairman. Sadly Sir Giles has since died; but as his deputy chairman, and later chairman (1969-70), may I please put the record straight.

Sir Giles was indeed a merchant banker, but as a former winner of the Portsmouth/Johannesburg air race, later as a pilot and airline manager, and a director since 1959 of British European Airways, he was devotedly knowledgeable of aircraft standards. He was a natural and very firm executive of great personal charm.

On appointment, on January 1, 1964, he was directed as chairman of BOAC to "act in its own commercial interest and if the national interest required some course non-compatible with that interest it should be entered into only at the express agreement of the minister". The rest is history. BOAC was put back on its feet — by Guthrie.

The lesson that should now be learned by British aircraft and other engineering manufacturers is that aircraft should be designed for world markets and not for the small British requirement whose particular routes and needs may not be in the world pattern.

Yours etc.,  
CHARLES HARDIE,  
25 New Street,  
Henley-on-Thames,  
Oxfordshire,  
October 21.

From Mr Geoffrey Knight

Sir, Neither Lord Caldecote nor Lord King (letter, October 18) have got things quite right. If we in British

### Costs and NHS

From the Director of the Caring National Association

Sir, Professor Langton Hower suggests (letter, October 16) that for the cost of a stair-lift a man who has had a stroke could be returned home to be "looked after by his partner". He is right that this would be a "cost-reducing innovation", but he fails to take account of the hidden costs for the partner.

Many of Britain's six million carers give up a paid job to take on the caring task; only about 2 per cent receive any compensating allowance in the form of the princely sum of £31 per week in invalid care allowance. Not only are they poor now, therefore, but they are building up poverty for the future through the loss of pensions and savings.

The majority of them also suffer in terms of their own health, receiving no help at all from statutory services; 58 per cent report some illness or injury as a direct result of caring. The isolation which being confined with a heavily dependent person entails takes a toll of the carers' own emotions, affecting other family relationships and often depriving them of any sense of their own value.

Carers take on these enormous responsibilities willingly, for rea-

sons of love or family obligation, but they need recognition, practical help, adequate benefits and some time off. The stair-lift is only part of the solution.

Yours truly,  
JILL PITKEATHLEY, Director,  
Caring National Association,  
29 Chisworth Mews, W2,  
October 16.

From Mr J. Saunders

Sir, There really is no need for the man referred to by Professor Langton Hower to remain in hospital indefinitely at a cost to the health authority of £173 a day. If he does not wish, or need, to be in hospital and has a partner able and willing to look after him at home he should be taken there forthwith by ambulance.

The social services and housing departments should be informed of the discharge and reminded of the man's need for a stair-lift if ground-floor accommodation cannot be provided within a reasonable time. Hospitals are under no obligation whatever to provide an alternative for other statutory services.

Yours faithfully,  
J. SAUNDERS  
(Administrator, Kirklees Area Health Authority, 1974-9),  
2 The Turnpike, Ely, Cambridgeshire,  
October 16.

### Nights at the opera

From Mr Michael D. Varcoe-Cocks

Sir, Only one third, not two thirds (Mrs Hubbard's letter, October 22) of the Royal Opera House seats are in the amphitheatre and slips and, of those, nearly 40 per cent have a restricted or semi-restricted view.

Mrs Hubbard claims that "Monstrous swilling punters in their corporate boxes... form a very small part of the dedicated, nightly, audiences at Covent Garden"; but — as an example — for each of the forthcoming *Marriage of Figaro* performances over 1,000 spectators will pay (or have paid for them) between £82 and £113.

The lucky few who obtain amphitheatre seats with a clear view of the stage will pay no less than £37.50.

Yours faithfully,  
M. D. VARCOE-COCKS,  
5 Brackenbury Road, W6,  
October 22.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071 782 5046).

### National lottery and environment

From the Chairman of the Council for the Protection of Rural England

Sir, In the extensive public debate in recent months about the relative merits of a national lottery and the Foundation for Sport and the Arts set up by the pools promoters, one vital point has frequently been missed. The national lottery would benefit the environment as well as the arts and sport. The foundation does not.

This environmental dimension is fundamental to the wider basis of public support which I believe the lottery would have. From our beleaguered countryside with its crumbling stone walls, blocked footpaths and farmland under intense development pressure, to our messy canals and our drab areas of urban blight, the need for resources and action is plain.

More fundamentally, the search for more sustainable patterns of public policy and individual lifestyles is urgent, requiring a combination of experimentation, research, ideas, debate and education for which current levels of government and charitable support are clearly inadequate.

For example, the Department of the Environment currently spends about £21 million per year in support of voluntary organisations in all aspects of environmental work in city, town and countryside. Meanwhile, the competition for individual and company donations is becoming more intense.

Against this background a share for the environment of the £1 billion which a national lottery is predicted to be able to provide could make a substantial difference to many different organisations working towards a better quality of life and a sustainable future.

There is no single national umbrella body to speak up for the environment. It is all the more important, therefore, to remember that the benefit of the environment is central to the case for a broadly based national-lottery scheme.

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID ASTOR, Chairman,  
Council for the Protection of Rural England,  
Warwick House,  
25 Buckingham Palace Road, SW1,  
October 16.

### Waiting for a heart

From Mrs Amelia Tansey

Sir, I have an eight-year-old grandson who is at present in the Royal Hospital for Sick Children in Edinburgh. He was born with a congenital heart complaint and he had an operation at five days old.

Last year he had a major operation to replace a valve in his heart and a few days later had to have a pacemaker fitted.

His parents were told in March that no more could be done for him at the hospital and that he would need a new heart. He was referred to Harfield Hospital, West London, where he was put on the transplant list.

Unfortunately his condition has deteriorated in the last two or three months. His parents have been told his chances are bleak because of the shortage of donors. I feel that if everyone carried a donor card my grandson and everyone else waiting and relying on the thoughtfulness of donor card carriers would have a better chance.

Yours truly,  
AMELIA TANSEY,  
7/16 Viewcraig Gardens,  
Edinburgh 8,  
October 23.

### Points of law

From Mr D. A. Clark, JP

Sir, How strange that at the time Lord Mackay was "berating" magistrates at the annual meeting of the Magistrates Association in London (report, October 21) I was listening to a national discussion on the provision of a "quality service" in magistrates' courts given by Lord Mackay at the annual meeting of the Magistrates Association in Birmingham.

Yours faithfully,  
D. A. CLARK (Head),  
Birmingham School of Chiropractic and Podiatric Medicine,  
Matthew Boulton College,  
Sherlock Street,  
Birmingham, West Midlands,  
October 21.

### From Colonel R. L. Bell

Sir, Hoespope that is so'd by the metre is still half an inch in diameter, and the metric diameter bicycle tyre is still inches and fractions of an inch in width. Your unashamedly imperial, avoirdupois, apothecary servant, R. L. BELL, Michaelmas Cottage, Merrow Street, Merrow, Guildford, Surrey.

From Mr Andrew MacFadyen

Sir, England footballers by the score, policemen by the Yard, poets by the metre, minister for sport by the pint, bras by the cup...

Yours faithfully,  
ANDREW MACFADYEN,  
The Hollies, Boreham Street,  
Nr Hemstonceux, East Sussex.

From Mr J. T. W. Martin

Sir, A yard of ale to go with a pint of prawns, please! Yours faithfully, JEREMY MARTIN, Beechfield, 54 Warren Road, Guildford, Surrey.





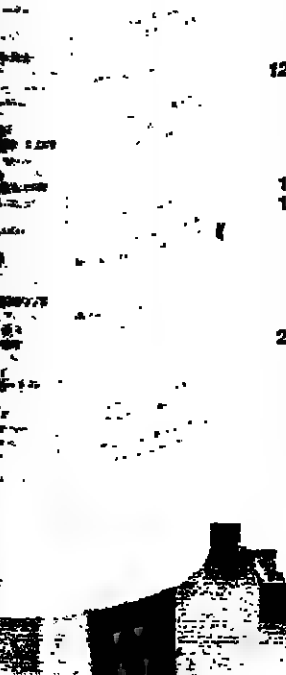












## TELEVISION AND RADIO 23

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## CHANNEL 4

5.00 Channel 4 Daily 9-25 Schools  
 6.00 Profiles of Nature: The Waterfowl Art of Maynard Reece. A profile of the wildlife artist filmed in his native American midwest.  
 7.00 Business Daily. The latest news from the world's money markets.  
 8.00 Sesame Street. Pre-schooled learning series from the United States.  
 9.00 The March of Time (b/w). Murray Sayle introduces two films made in 1944 - British Imperialism, which examines its future, and What To Do With Germany? a discussion on how to get rid of fascism and replace it with a liberal democracy (r)  
 9.30 The Firm Against Mrs Hadley (1942, b/w) starring Faye Bainter. Richard Widmark stars in this world war propaganda film about a Washington society hostess whose selfish attitude towards the hostilities is changed by what happens

to her son and daughter. Directed by Harold S. Buquet

● **Crime Does Not Pay: A Gun In His Hand (b/w).** An MGM short, based on fact, about a policeman who uses his training to embark on a double life of crime

● **Fifteen-to-One.** Fast-moving general knowledge quiz

● **The Oprah Winfrey Show.** A group of husbands are encouraged to criticize their wives' fashion sense. **5.55 Wilto the Wisp**

● **The Time Tunnel.** The time-warped scientists are on board a satellite ship preparing to attack a Spanish vessel

● **Crimes & Misdemeanors.** Attack a Spanish vessel


● **Winter 7-90 Comment**

● **Matters of Taste.**

● **CHOICE:** The mind boggles: Is Janice Robinson honestly telling us that haggis is displacing ood and chips? Not yet. And not, apparently, for a long time yet. Her investigation into the eating habits of the Scots reveals that it is foreigners, not the natives, who are doing the haggis. There is a posh Speyside hotel where the menu rarely offers local bannock or beef because both are pounced on, at source, by bulk buyers from the Continent. They know that these are the same as the haggis. The town of Rothes has no greengrocer or fishmonger, and although there are five whisky distilleries, the local supermarket sells only Canadian brands.

Worst of all: Scots consume only 1 per cent of their seafood harvest, and, as recently as 30 years ago, Scots fishermen were dumping prawns overboard as "nuisance catch" (r). (Teletext)

**30 Baghdad Café.** Comedy series, based on the successful film of the same name, starring Whoopi Goldberg and Jean Stapleton (Teletext) (s)



**Political Flak: British troops out of Northern Ireland (9.00pm)**

**00 Critical Eye: Pack Up the Troubles.**

**@ CHOICE:** Not to mince words, here is a thunderbolt – with a accuracy about Northern Ireland that comes right out with it – there are enough troops in the British mainland to troops out of Ulster; that new Northern Ireland secretaries successfully came, saw, and failed; that Britain's whole human rights record in Northern Ireland stands condemned in the world forum; that Sinn Féin must be involved in any Ulster initiative. And that's only for starters. It's a long time since we heard this sort of thing on television, and some political flak cannot be ruled out even though opposed arguments are also presented. Most of them carry more conviction than that of the former Northern Ireland secretary who says: "Of course Northern Ireland is part of the UK, for heaven's sake! Two of my cousins live there." (Teletext)

**00 Drop the Dead Donkey.** Very funny topical comedy set in a television newsroom starring Jeff Fawcett as the incompetent news anchor, and a very funny character as the eager head of department (a) **Love Telly.** Comedian Marshall leads a discussion on how people who were **cracked** (imprisoned) as a child and suffered from trouble

**ROSPORT**

to the Age's website.

**LIFESTYLE**

Premium Football Euro Cup's 3.00  
 Previews 3.50 Benfica Match Magazine 4.00  
 Football 6.00 Equestrian Jumping 7.00  
 Transport News 7.50 Sailing 8.00 Travel  
 and 8.00 Equestrian Race Driving  
 Eurosport News 10.00 Football 11.50  
 Fishing Rock and Roll European Champ-  
 ion 12.00am Eurosport News

**GREENSPORT**  
 On the Green sports section.  
 News Eurobikes 3.00 Ladies Pro Bowlers

4 Via the Airmail satellite.  
 10.00am American Greenhouse 10.50 Col-  
 lege Basketball 10.55 Everyday Workout 11.25  
 Week with Van 12.00 Sally Jessy Raphael  
 12.50pm Style File 12.55 Search for  
 Tomorrow 1.30 The Real Story 2.30  
 Lifestyle Plus 2.30 Cyrl Fletcher's Lifestyle  
 Garden 2.55 Pans 3.50 Tea Break 4.00  
 WNSP in Chinatown 4.30 American  
 Greenhouse 5.25 Lifestyle of the Rich and  
 Famous 6.00 The Self-Visiting Shopping  
 Programme 12.00 Satellite Junction

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...and the fact that the *in vitro* and *in vivo* results are in good agreement. The *in vitro* results are in good agreement with the *in vivo* results, which are in good agreement with the *in vitro* results.















# Bear raiders on the loose again

## COMMENT

Dealers approached with a hot tip on the imminent collapse of another stalwart of corporate life should think first before reaching for the phone. To judge from the shenanigans surrounding the share price of Associated British Foods yesterday, the bear raiders are back.

Any who go for the bait and find their fingers burned are advised not to look to the Stock Exchange, ostensibly the market watch-dog, for redress. A spate of raids last year left a number of company chairmen deeply resentful and led to serious calls for action, and Peter Rawlings, the exchange's chief executive, announced an enquiry.

A year later concrete results of that enquiry are not easy to discern. There have been arrests, but none in connection with some of the more flagrant examples, where millions of pounds were wiped off the share prices of perfectly reputable companies by what looked like a professional ring of raiders.

It is presumably not beyond the bounds of human capability to trace some of the rumours to

someone who has been active in the market in the relevant shares at the relevant time. Gossip at City watering-holes regularly points to certain market operators. The Stock Exchange comforts itself with its familiar mantra that it always investigates all suspicious movements in share prices, but as with other examples of insider trading, little appears to be detected. Too many obvious leaks resulting in improper gains or the unfair avoidance of losses are these days going unpunished.

AB Foods, with cash in the bank even after buying British Sugar earlier this year, is regarded as one of the safest havens in the FT-SE yet has been singled out for one of the few raids of the year. Albert Fisher is another food group that suffered the attentions of the bear raiders a few weeks ago.

Significantly, both were in "close season" ahead of results and unable under Stock Ex-

change regulations to communicate with the market as fully as they might like, making them easy targets for the raiders.

## BTR ahead

Under the new leadership of Alan Jackson, BTR appears to be coasting to victory in its bid for Hawker Siddeley having so far won the battle for the hearts and minds of investors. Indeed there has been a delicious irony or two in the affair that reflects better on BTR than on Hawker. Hawker's strategy has been to identify some core operations such as electric motors, industrial batteries and aerospace overhaul and maintenance as the keys to its future and to effectively notify the world that most of the rest is

up for sale. Such restructuring, buying and selling is more widely identified with BTR which has digested and reshaped a long stream of acquisitions over the years. BTR, on the other hand, says that it prefers to hang on to most of Hawker if it is eventually successful.

Most outsiders would say that BTR is better suited to the task of rebuilding a new Hawker simply on the grounds that it has a tried and tested approach to such an exercise plus a management team thoroughly familiar with the nuts and bolts of the process. BTR says however that wholesale disposals are not needed.

Either way, the future of Hawker looks more assured in BTR's hands whatever course of action is eventually required. If Hawker is to regain the initiative

it must attempt to fight on a different arena. The market is expecting a defence soon that will concentrate on two aspects of the battle, the underlying profitability in Hawker's constituent parts and some perceived inadequacies of BTR's offer.

## Arctic freeze

The increased frequency of pay freezes in Britain this year has helped slow average earnings growth to 7.75 per cent, an achievement that has won wide acclaim. If British industry is to compete, now the pound is subject to the disciplines of the European exchange-rate mechanism, pay costs must not rise faster than that of our rivals abroad.

Outperforming the Germans on both inflation and wage growth, albeit it temporarily, is within reach. As Robin Leigh-Pemberton, Governor of the

Bank of England, wisely remarked, the Germans will not always be the yardstick of best performance. On pay, that is already true. British industry should, perhaps, look further afield, northwards to Finland, for the new model country on earnings.

A landmark agreement reached between the bulk of Finland's employers and trades unions on Monday would appear to confirm that the Finns are prepared to face truly Arctic conditions on pay. Under the 22-month accord, which comes into force next January, workers' will accept a loss of 4.1 per cent of their purchasing power, while industry's wage costs are lowered by about 7 per cent, as pensions payments are transferred to the employee.

The draconian response is, perhaps, understandable, given the fact that country is suffering its deepest recession since 1920. It is to be hoped that pay-setting *à la Finnoise* will not turn into competitive wage-cutting across Europe. That could bring icy winds all too reminiscent of the Great Depression.

# Presenting the bill for putting food on Soviet Union tables

Industry chiefs are prepared to give aid, Ross Tieman writes, but only if government pays its share

JOHN Gummer will sit down with leaders of Britain's food manufacturing and distribution industries today to discuss an unpalatable request for government cash to underwrite efforts to modernise the economy of the Soviet Union.

The position of business leaders is straightforward. They are willing to help, but cannot justify to their shareholders the high risks and uncertain returns of immediate large-scale investment in the East when they could make more money, with less risk, elsewhere. If the government wants to achieve its political aim of modernising the economy of the Soviet Union in order to achieve political stability there, it must underwrite its share of the risk.

Most business leaders who visited the Soviet Union at the request of Margaret Thatcher, the former prime minister, refused to spend anything more than pin money. This time, the political imperatives to provide assistance are much greater.

John Major spent part of his career at Standard Chartered Bank. He cannot fail to understand the commercial assessment of risk, but the idea of state underwriting for overseas investment will not sit easily with a government so firmly wedded to privatisation.

The Food Group visit to the Soviet Union was a personal initiative by Mr Major. Faced with claims that the Soviet population might starve this winter, Mr Major had Mr Gummer call a meeting of 40 executives from the food industry on September 5.

Just 17 days later, seven set off under the leadership of Sir Ronald McIntosh, a former senior civil servant, on a ten-day study tour, examining the food chain from farm to shop counter in selected areas around Moscow and St Petersburg. The roll call was impressive. Members of the delegation were Alistair Grant, of Argyll



Facing shortages: a lack of fresh produce is forcing citizens to stock up on tinned food

Group, Tony Millar, of Albert Fisher, Richard Baldwin, of APV, Tony Hales, of Allied-Lyons, John Wood-Dow, of Hilldown Holdings, George Hazle, of Exel Logistics, and John Mitchell, of ICI.

They made their recommendations to Mr Gummer and Mr Major on October 4. Today's meeting between Mr Gummer and industry representatives will provide the first clues to how willing the government will be to share the risks implicit in the task it wants industry to undertake. The scale of that task cannot be understated. Mr Hazle said: "We thought we could work with what was there. We were wrong."

Soviet food production and

distribution is, at best, an inverted image of the market economy model, the group found. Supply is driven by production, rather than by demand from consumers. Inefficiencies exist at every level.

Farms are too large. Their yields are only a third or a quarter of levels achieved in the West. They have poor quality seeds, livestock strains and harvesting methods.

Tractor part supplies are scarce and repairs are made in huge, inefficient centralised workshops. Storage throughout the Soviet Union is in three-storey warehouses, their floors impeded by pillars, which cannot accommodate modern racking and pallet-handling sys-

tems. Packaging is inadequate to prevent damage to produce. The largest lorries available have a ten tonne payload. Most road transport is by seven tonne trucks that break down frequently because roads are in poor repair.

Even on the railways, refrigerated compartments and purpose-built wagons are a rarity. Food often arrives at processing factories in a poor state.

Factories are often inefficient and their buildings poorly designed. Overmanning is commonplace. Because people eat much of their food in factory canteens, the number of shops is small in comparison to the West. This factor alone will be a barrier to the development of a

demand-led food industry. In short, the team concluded, the republics need to renew their food industry. In the process, huge numbers of employees will be displaced. A horror of unemployment underlies the reluctance of many Soviet managers to embrace change.

Citizens do not simply have to cope with a transition from a command economy to a market economy. They have to learn that a market economy is dynamic, and to become accustomed to a process of constant renewal and change.

According to the evidence, albeit partly anecdotal, the Soviet population does not, however, face starvation this winter. Many people have laid in huge stocks of tinned food. The Food Team concluded that there is a breathing space for the West to act.

The team's prescriptions take a variety of forms. In the short run, Britain can help at relatively modest cost by providing better seeds and livestock strains, but rebuilding the food chain to the shops will be hugely capital-intensive. The best strategy, the team believes, is to provide a model that the Soviets can copy.

The team's judgment is substantiated by the experience of McDonald's, the American burger chain, which, in order to open stores in Moscow, found it necessary to set up its own farms, processing and transport.

Ironically, Mr Hazle suggests that the Soviet Union should not abandon central planning. In order to prevent waste of resources, he believes, Western experts should provide a master plan showing how many vehicle workshops, jam factories, and so forth, state planners need to replicate a market system.

Most urgent of all, the government must take a lead in negotiations with the Soviet Union and the republics to ensure that British business, if it makes a commitment, is not wrong-footed by political instability, or a failure to allow prices to find market levels.

Government underwriting is needed to prime the pump of investment in the Soviet Union, business leaders say. British companies will be prepared to reinvest Soviet earnings in the modernisation of the Soviet economy only if they know they can take profits out

## Crucial role of services in the UK economy

From the chairman of the British Tourist Authority and board member of British Invisibles

Sir, The CBI is quite right to highlight the problems of manufacturing industry (October 22). But many of us feel that more attention should also be paid to the service sector.

It really won't do, these days, to make judgments about the state of the British economy on the basis of "manufacturing output". One plainly cannot arrive at a sensible conclusion if one ignores services, which have acquired a greater significance than ever before.

Private invisible exports account for over half of this country's foreign exchange earnings. This includes income from insurance, banking, shipping, aviation, tourism, and other services.

Tourism alone employs 6 per cent of the entire workforce and brings in £8 billion in foreign exchange earnings. The industry is considerably larger than many manufacturing sectors, such as motor vehicles and aerospace. It still has impressive growth prospects.

We would like to see more evidence that the increasingly important role of services is clearly understood and appreciated by politicians as well as by the CBI.

Yours faithfully, WILLIAM DAVIS, Chairman, British Tourist Authority, 24 Grosvenor Gardens, SW1

From the director-general, Association of British Chambers of Commerce

Sir, Your Comment in the Business Section on October 22 was critical of the "too many voices" speaking for British industry. The Babel babble of which you complain is a reflection of the different and complementary business constituencies for which we speak - CBI for the generality of the business community

## Civilian approach

From the joint co-ordinator, Campaign Against Arms Trade

Sir, Ross Tieman's article on military industry "Exports offer the best defence against cuts and recession" (October 17) has an anachronistic tone. It concludes that the warming of East-West relations and the Gulf war have led to a situation where exports are the key to survival for Britain's military industry.

The global market for arms is shrinking. Arms sales worldwide declined by 35 per cent in 1990 from 1989, and the decline in the developing world is still greater. This, combined with the cuts in domestic military spending following the welcome thawing of the Cold War, means that any company with economic foresight would be getting out of the arms trade.

The Gulf war did not stop the daily reports of closures and redundancies in military industry. What it did do, however, is to make the world aware of the grave dangers of trading in arms. A response which would address the plight of Britain's arms factories without fuelling regional arms races is to work for the conversion of military industry to civilian production. This would create a more secure livelihood both for arms industry workers here and for the people in the regions to which the wares will be sold.

Yours faithfully, JANET WILLIAMSON, Joint Co-ordinator, Campaign Against Arms Trade, 11 Goodwin Street, Finsbury Park, N4.

British industry felt in the Commission and to influence our counterparts in the rest of Europe to lobby in turn their own Governments. That lobby can only be built around the CBI, which has done an excellent job in Brussels, both individually and through UNICE. Next year there will be a British president of the European Association of Chambers of Commerce and the Institute of Directors is increasingly active in Europe. Trade associations form part of European networks. 1992 should see a determined effort to coordinate all this activity on behalf of British business.

Yours faithfully, RON TAYLOR CBE, Director General, The Association of British Chambers of Commerce, 9 Tufton Street, SW1

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## ANZ hands in licence

ANZ Merchant Bank, a subsidiary of the antipodean ANZ Group, has surrendered its merchant banking licence to the Bank of England. Without any public announcement, ANZ handed back the licence on September 30, after taking a policy decision to concentrate on commercial and retail banking. The closure of its UK corporate finance department has meant the loss of about 15 executive jobs and comes two years after ANZ decided to close its UK stockbroking division, four years after acquiring Capel-Cure Myers, the British firm. Among its redundant financiers is Robin Walker, a former director of Capel-Cure Myers, who will join the burgeoning corporate finance department at Smith & Williamson, the private banking group. Walker reveals that he chose Smith & Williamson in preference to three other job offers. "Its corporate finance department is almost

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

exactly the same size as the one I have left behind," he says.

### Taking sides

THE apparent support given by Lord Tombs, the Rolls-Royce chairman, to the decision to launch an Office of Fair Trading enquiry into the £272 million sale of British Airways' engine overhaul facility in South Wales to General Electric of America, is in danger of jeopardising hitherto friendly relations between the two British companies. Lord King, the BA chairman, known for his bulldog-like tenacity when it comes to flying the British flag, is understood to be far from amused. Lord Tombs, who is anything but a salesman, seems to have forgotten that more than 60 per cent of Rolls-Royce's civil engine business comes from BA and

that Rolls-Royce is currently in receipt of \$1.6 billion of orders from BA for engines and spares. Informed sources reveal that the competing offer from Rolls-Royce for the Treforest facility was more than £10 million short of GE's, and that despite an extension of the deadline, and

a blatant invitation by BA for Rolls-Royce to up the ante, a higher offer was not forthcoming.

THINGS must still be tough Down Under. Included in the procedural instructions for students graduating from Perth's Murdoch University was the following advice: "At the conclusion of the ceremony, marshals will instruct you when to join the recession."

### Jones clones

SIR John Harvey-Jones, the businessman turned broadcaster and public speaker, clearly enjoys working with people who have a well developed sense of humour. The former ICI chairman's secretarial staff at his home in Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire, who are already renowned for the witty messages they record

on his telephone answering machine, have come up with yet another. Their latest message says: "Because of pressure on Sir John Harvey-Jones's time, there is a mad scientist here trying to develop six clones of him so he can be in several places at once. You can either leave a message for Sir John or the mad scientist."

### Man's world

THE feminine touch is sadly lacking these days in Lazard Brothers' corporate finance department. A new wave of departures has left Frances Heaton, a director, as the sole remaining woman on John Nelson's team, compared with 16 women two years ago. Penny Scott has moved to Hambros and Kate Brasher, whose father, Chris, is well known for organising the London Marathon, has left to have a baby. Catherine Moerle has switched to Lazard's Capital Markets, where she is working under Alexander Catto.

CAROL LEONARD



# ama Zing!

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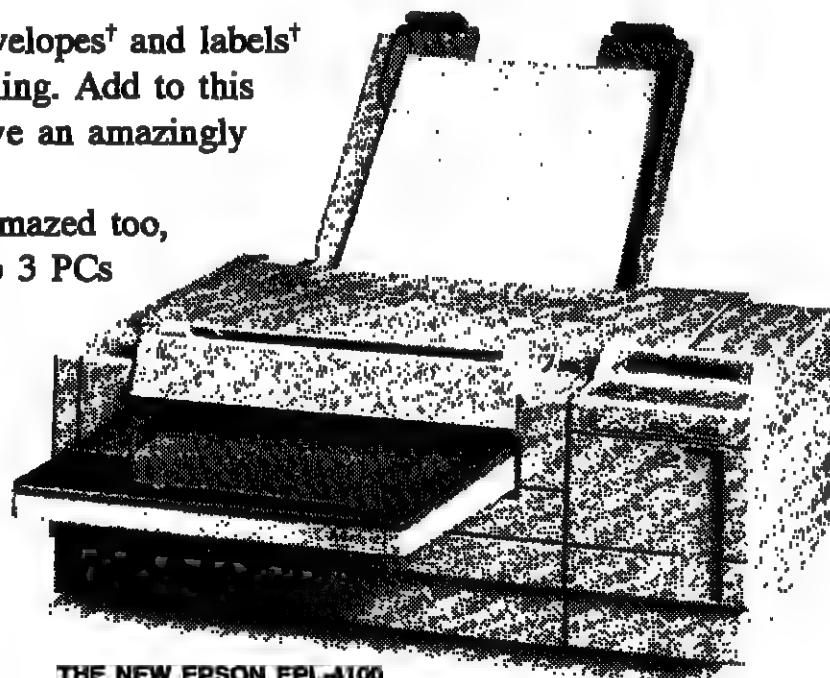
Amazingly versatile, the EPL-4100 accepts A4 sheets, envelopes† and labels† and has a straight-through paper path to reduce paper curling. Add to this specially developed economical consumables, and you have an amazingly capable and yet amazingly affordable personal laser.

Don't however, be surprised if your colleagues are amazed too, for this amazingly accommodating printer will serve up to 3 PCs using 3 different printer emulations.

Amazing? We believe so, but seeing is believing. Call free on 0800 289622 for the address of your nearest Epson Appointed Dealer.

\* (Excluding VAT).

† With optional multi-media feeder.



THE NEW EPSON EPL-4100

# EPSON

Epson (UK) Ltd. 100 The Campus, Maylands Avenue, Hemel Hempstead HP2 7EZ. Tel. 0442 61144

LONDON EC1 Digma Ltd Tel No 071-251 1010 Transcom Microsystems Ltd Tel No 071-837 4050 EC2 Pioneer Office Automation Ltd Tel No 071-729 3981 W1 G & B Computers Tel No 071-255 1501 Micro Anydata Ltd Tel No 071-436 2647 W61 A K Systems Tel No 071-431 9917 Borneo Limited Tel No 071-431 5454 ABERDEEN Abban Computer Systems Ltd Tel No 0224 847074 ACTON Applitek PLC Tel No 081-749 8989 ALMONDSBURY RGP Micro Systems Limited Tel No 04541 618886 ASDOT Page Printer Applications plc Tel No 0344 25543 ATLESBURY Jodi Systems Tel No 02069 394041 BARKING Bsc Com Information Systems Tel No 081-507 8166 BEDFORD The Computer Centre Tel No 02341 217081 BRIMMINGHAM Annot Computerworld Tel No 021-543 5262 Micro Business Centre Tel No 021-333 3448 Microtrading Ltd Tel No 021-754 0077 Westwood Systems Tel No 021-382 2944 BOLTON Man Computer Systems Tel No 091-519 1991 BOREHAMWOOD Elmore Computing Ltd Tel No 081-267 2000 BRADFORD Ryeon Computers Ltd Tel No 02741 309288 BRENTWOOD Direct Data Marketing Tel No 0277 374444 BRIGHTON Pavilion Computing Tel No 02731 200800 BRISTOL Bristol Office Machines Tel No 0272 838120 Compuadd Corporation Tel No 02721 254780 Computeworks Tel No 02721 277104 CAMBRIDGE Evesham Micros Ltd Tel No 0223 323688 The Computer Centre Tel No 0223 420116 CANTERBURY A D M Computing Tel No 02271 450200 CARDIFF Reeves

Sigma Computer Systems Tel No 0222 384321 Slaves Electronic & Comp Tel No 0222 451861 CARLISLE Randara Computers Limited Tel No 0228 514440 CHESTER Alderson Limited Tel No 0244 380301 CHESTER-LE-STREET Knowledge Computers Ltd Tel No 021-410 5005 CHICHESTER Micro Peripherals Ltd Tel No 0246 707070 CHIPPENHAM Diron Limited Tel No 0249 443631 CISHAM Digital Services Ltd Tel No 07051 210600 CROYDON Sennet's Limited Tel No 081-680 3550 CHERBY Davidson Richards (Int) Ltd Tel No 02321 368231 DINDOT Aegis Computers Tel No 0235 511339 DUMFRIES Ortel Micro Bus Sys Ltd Tel No 03871 62951 DUNFERMLINE Systems Reliability Scotland Tel No 0383 736117 DUNSTABLE Computer Express Europe Plc Tel No 0262 475277 Dunstable Computer Centre Tel No 0582 999930 EDINBURGH Abstar Computer Systems Ltd Tel No 031-228 2474 Scotbyte Computers Ltd Tel No 0268 488222 EWELL Bytes Computer Supplies Ltd Tel No 081-384 0802 EXETER RGP Micro Systems Limited Tel No 0382 411884 GATESHEAD Man Advanced Micro Electronics Tel No 091-480 1515 GLASGOW AMP Computer Services Tel No 041-557 2777 GUERNSEY CDP Sigma (Guernsey) Ltd Tel No 0481 712761 HALFAX Resource Facilities Tel No 0472 365835 HORSHAM Integra Computers Systems Tel No 02931 851303 HULL Computac Systems Support Ltd Tel No 0482 803961 HUNTINGDON ISC Computers Plc Tel

No 0480 420000 IPSWICH Bushell Computing Tel No 0473 832266 ISLE OF WRIGHT Island Computer Systems Limited Tel No 05831 821717 KINGSWINFORD Randara Computers Ltd Tel No 0284 401400 LEEDS Hodge Group PLC Tel No 0532 458459 Marica Ltd Tel No 0532 434468 LINCOLN The Computer Centre Tel No 0522 544987 LIVERPOOL Business Equipment Centre Tel No 051-260 6000 MANCHESTER National Computer Supplies Tel No 05231 21111 MARGATE Travel Computer Services Tel No 0343 268777 MATLOCK Trust plc Tel No 06291 733111 MITCHELDEAN Dean Microcomputers Ltd Tel No 05941 542116 NEWBURY SCS plc Tel No 0335 529228 NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE Hill International Ltd Tel No 081-273 8251 NEWPORT Gwent Computers Tel No 0523 841700 NORTHAMPTON Actel Computers Limited Tel No 08041 858011 JCS Computing Ltd Tel No 08041 234389 The Computer Centre Tel No 08041 233760 NOTTINGHAM Admeca Ltd Tel No 0802 252627 PETERBOROUGH The Computer Centre Tel No 0753 345573 PLYMOUTH RGP Micro Systems Limited Tel No 07521 346669 POOLE Lardemore UK Tel No 0202 743336 Trowgate Computers Ltd Tel No 0202 685700 ROTHERHAM Absolute Computers Ltd Tel No 0702 525676 RUSHP Wilson Hughes & Partners Tel No 081-804 5353 SALFORD KDL Ltd Tel No 081-872 8727 SANDSACH 2SL Ltd Tel No 0270 761516 SCUNTHORPE The Computer Centre Tel No 07241

65020 SHIRLEY Technology Computers Ltd Tel No 021-753 3555 SOUTHAMPTON Sigma Computers Eng & Maint Tel No 0703 663636 Symtec Computers Ltd Tel No 0703 638868 ST. HELLIER A & C Business Computers Ltd Tel No 0334 38222 STOCPORT Alpha Business Computers Tel No 081-483 5650 STORRINGTON ATW Group Tel No 0923 745865 SURBITON Data Systems Electronics Ltd Tel No 081-390 4021 TELFORD P S M Microcomputers Tel No 08921 291670 TRURO A C Systems Tel No 0272 79227 WAREFIELD DIY Business Bureau Ltd Tel No 0241 376755 WALTON ON THAMES Ferguson Computers Ltd Tel No 05221 241652 WANDSWORTH Mayfair Micros Tel No 081-874 8474 WATFORD RSC Tel No 0223 243501 WEMBLEY Action Computers Supplies Tel No 081-900 2596 WILMSLOW Parhurst Instruments Ltd Tel No 06231 226884 WIDONG WBM Business Supplies Ltd Tel No 0483 756844 WORKINGHAM Miller Computing Services Tel No 0734 782316 Synagra Network Systems Ltd Tel No 07341 771789 WORTHING Ferncourt Business Services Tel No 0803 624091 WYREHAM More Computer World Tel No 0978 350418 YEOVIL Gateway Computing Tel No 09531 24355 IRELAND BELFAST CCM Computers Ltd Tel No 02321 244111 PC Consultants Tel No 0232 459364 LISBURN Medical & Scientific Comp Services Tel No 0846 617533

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This document is issued in compliance with the requirements of The London Stock Exchange pursuant to Section 154 of the Financial Services Act 1986. The issue of this document has been authorised by The London Stock Exchange without approval of its contents.

This document contains the Terms and Conditions of Application, the Guide to the Application Form, an Application Form and statements of a factual nature drawn from the listing particulars dated 23rd October, 1991 (the "Listing Particulars") which have been published by JIB Group plc and should be read in conjunction with such Listing Particulars which alone contain full details of the history and business of the Company. The Directors are advised that this document contains a fair summary of the key information set out in the Listing Particulars. Application has been made to the London Stock Exchange for the whole of the issued ordinary share capital of the Company to be admitted to the Official List.

The application lists for the Shares now being offered will open at 10.00 a.m. on Thursday, 31st October, 1991 and may be closed at any time thereafter. It is expected that definitive share certificates will be despatched on 9th November, 1991 and that listing will become effective and dealings will commence on 7th November, 1991. Definitions set out in the Listing Particulars shall also apply in this document unless the context requires otherwise.



# JIB Group plc

Placing and Offer by  
Robert Fleming & Co. Limited

of 33,000,000 ordinary shares of 10p each at 195p per ordinary share

payable in full on application

of which 16,500,000 ordinary shares are being placed and  
16,500,000 ordinary shares are being offered to the public

## SHARE CAPITAL FOLLOWING THE PLACING AND OFFER

AUTHORISED	ISSUED AND FULLY PAID
£15,700,000	IN ORDINARY SHARES OF 10p EACH £10,938,075

## INDEBTEDNESS

At the close of business on 27th September, 1991, the Group had outstanding borrowings or indebtedness in the nature of borrowings of £55.6 million, comprising £3.9 million of guaranteed unsecured loan notes, obligations under finance leases of £1.5 million, other secured borrowings or indebtedness in the nature of secured borrowings of £38.2 million and unsecured borrowings of £11.9 million. Included in secured borrowings is a US\$45 million loan to a subsidiary which is secured on a cash deposit by the Company of £26.8 million. The deposit is included in cash balances below. In addition, the Group had material contingent liabilities in respect of litigation and counter-indemnities

as noted in Note 21 to the Accountants' Report in Part 3 and in paragraphs 11 and 14(g) of Part 4 of the Listing Particulars.

Save as aforesaid and apart from intra-group liabilities, neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries had at that date any loan capital (including term loans) outstanding or created but unissued or any mortgages or charges or any other borrowings or indebtedness in the nature of borrowings including bank overdrafts and liabilities under acceptances (other than normal trade bills) or acceptance credits, hire purchase or finance lease commitments or guarantees or other material contingent liabilities.

At the same date the Group had total cash balances of £279.9 million. Of the cash balances held at 27th September, 1991, £209.5 million represented insurance broking funds held by the Company's insurance broking subsidiaries for the benefit of their insurance broking creditors.

Certain subsidiary companies which are Lloyd's brokers have entered into trust deeds as required by the Lloyd's Brokers' Bye-laws under which all insurance broking account assets are subject to a floating charge in favour of the Society of Lloyd's for the benefit of those companies' insurance creditors. The cash balances subject to these charges, which only become enforceable under certain circumstances, amounted to £155.5 million at 27th September, 1991.

The following information is derived from the full text of the Listing Particulars and should be read in conjunction with that text.

## INTRODUCTION

JIB is a leading London based international insurance broking company. In the early 1970's, Jardine Matheson decided to develop its then small insurance broking business. The subsequent expansion of the Group has been rapid and over the last decade, as a result of acquisitions and organic growth, JIB, with over 3,500 employees, has become the eighth largest insurance broker in the world in terms of turnover.

The proceeds of the Offer will accrue to the Jardine Matheson group which following the Offer will hold 63.1 per cent. of the Shares. JIB operates independently of the Jardine Matheson group.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE BUSINESS

The Group's business is predominantly retail based, but it also has significant interests in the international wholesale and reinsurance sectors together with a Lloyd's members' agency. The Group has well established operations in nearly all the major insurance broking markets in the world. This broad base provides a platform for future growth and offers opportunities for cross-referral of business and exchange of new product ideas between the Group's divisions. The Group does not act as an insurer of risks.

In 1990, Group turnover was generated as follows:

ACTIVITY	AREA
Retail 70%	Americas 50%
International Wholesale 14%	United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland 39%
Reinsurance 13%	Australia and New Zealand 7%
Lloyd's Members' Agency 3%	Asia 4%

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF APPLICATION

- The contracts arising from acceptance of applications under the Offer will be conditional on Admission becoming effective not later than 15th November, 1991. Cheques or banker's drafts for amounts payable on application will be presented for payment before such conditions are satisfied and the application money will be kept as a separate bank account and, if such conditions are not satisfied, application money will be returned (without interest) by crossed cheque in favour of the applicant(s) through the post at the risk of the applicant(s). It is expected that Admission will become effective on 7th November, 1991.
- Subject to these Terms and Conditions of Application, Placings reserves the right in consultation with the Company to reject in whole or in part or to scale down any applications and to present any cheques or banker's drafts for payment on receipt. If any application is not accepted, or is accepted for fewer Shares than the number applied for, the application money or, at the case may be, the balance of the application money will be returned (without interest) by sending the applicant's cheque or banker's draft or a crossed cheque in favour of the applicant(s) through the post at the risk of the applicant(s). Placings further reserves the right to treat as valid and binding upon the applicant(s) any application, even if the accompanying Application Form is not completed or delivered in accordance with instructions or is not accompanied by a power of attorney when necessary.
- The Offer is being made by Placings as agent of the Selling Shareholder. Applicants must be made on the accompanying Application Form or (to the extent that persons are eligible as described in paragraph 5 below) on a Priority Application Form. By completing and delivering an Application Form or a Priority Application Form you as the applicant(s):
  - offer to purchase the number of Shares specified in your Application Form or Priority Application Form (or such smaller number for which the application is accepted) on the terms and subject to the conditions set out in the form for which these Terms and Conditions of Application form part and subject to the Listing Particulars and the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company;
  - authorise Barclays Registrars to send on behalf of the Selling Shareholder a definitive share certificate for the number of Shares for which your application is accepted, or your application cheque or banker's draft or a crossed cheque for any monies returnable, by post, to your address (or, in the case of joint applicants, to that of the first-named applicant as set out in your Application Form) and to procure that your name (together with the name(s) of any joint applicant(s)) is/are placed on the register of members of the Company in respect of such Shares;
  - in consideration of the Selling Shareholder agreeing that it will not prior to 15th November, 1991 sell any of the Shares offered to any person other than by means of the procedures referred to in the Listing Particulars and as a collateral contract between you and the Selling Shareholder which will become binding on dispatch by post to or, in the case of applications delivered by hand, receipt by Barclays Registrars of the Application Form or Priority Application Form;
  - agree that your application may not be revoked until after 15th November, 1991;
  - warrant that your remittance will be honoured on first presentation and agree that, if such remittance is not so honoured, you will not be entitled to receive a share certificate in respect of the Shares applied for or to enjoy or receive any rights or distributions in respect of such Shares unless and until you make payment in cleared funds for such Shares and such payment is accepted by Placings (which acceptance shall be in its absolute discretion and may be on the basis that you indemnify the Selling Shareholder against all costs, damages, losses, expenses and liabilities arising out of or in connection with the failure of your remittance to be honoured on first presentation) and that at any time prior to unconditional acceptance by Placings of such late payment in respect of such Shares and may re-sell such Shares (without prejudice to other rights) avoid the agreement to sell such Shares and may re-sell such Shares to some other person, in which case you will not be entitled to any refund or payment in respect of such Shares (other than return of such late payment);
  - agree with the Selling Shareholder and Placings promptly on request to furnish in writing to the Selling Shareholder or Placings any information which it may require in connection with your application;
  - agree that any share certificate to which you may become entitled and monies returnable to you may be retained pending clearance of your remittance and will not bear interest;
  - agree that in respect of those Shares for which your application has been received and is not rejected, allocation of such Shares to you shall be constituted either by notification to the London Stock Exchange of the basis of allocation (in which case allocation shall be on that basis) or by the determination of the number of Shares to be allocated pursuant to the arrangements made between the Selling Shareholder and Barclays Registrars;

## STRENGTHS AND FEATURES OF THE GROUP

- Record of continuous growth in recent years, with operating profit before interest payable nearly doubling between 1988 and 1990
- Strong position in the London market, with a highly successful reinsurance broking business
- Broad geographic spread and diversity of activities
- Excellent opportunities in the Far East, where JIB is a leading retail insurance broker
- Experienced and stable management team
- Success in integrating acquisitions
- Commitment to strict quality control procedures

## FINANCIAL RECORD AND CURRENT TRADING

The following information is derived from the Accountants' Report set out in Part 3 of the Listing Particulars:

	YEARS ENDED 31ST DECEMBER			MONTHS ENDED 30TH JUNE
	1988	1989	1990	1991
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Turnover	109.0	128.2	150.6	83.8
Investment income	10.8	16.3	17.9	8.7
Total income	119.8	144.5	168.5	92.5
Operating profit before interest payable	10.4	13.5	19.6	13.7
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	7.8	10.0	15.1	11.1
Earnings per Share	7.6p	8.9p	12.0p	9.4p

Trading in the current financial year reflects the considerable progress made by the Group primarily as a result of winning new business and an increase in premiums in certain sectors. The Reinsurance division continues to benefit from increases in premiums and growth in new business. The International Wholesale division has benefited from increased premiums as a result of the Gulf war and is now benefiting from recent increases in marine, energy and

OFFER STATISTICS	
Offer price per Share	195p
Number of Shares in issue	109,380,754
Market capitalisation at the Offer price	£213 million
Percentage of share capital now being placed and offered	30.2%
Historic earnings per Share for the year ended 31st December, 1990	12.0p
Historic price earnings multiple at the Offer price	16.3 times
Prospective earnings per Share for the year ending 31st December, 1991	13.5p
Prospective price earnings multiple at the Offer price	14.4 times
Forecast final net dividend per Share for the year ending 31st December, 1991	5.0p
Notional net dividend per Share for the year ending 31st December, 1991	7.5p
Notional gross dividend yield at the Offer price	5.1%

NOTE The historic and prospective earnings per Share, the forecast net dividend and notional net dividend per Share have been calculated on the bases set out under "Profit and Dividend Forecast" in Part 1 and in Note 8 to the Accountants' Report in Part 3 of the Listing Particulars.

## EXPECTED TIMETABLE

Application Forms and payment to be received by	10.00 a.m. on Thursday, 31st October, 1991
Basis of allocation to be announced by	Monday, 4th November, 1991
Despatch of definitive share certificates on	Wednesday, 6th November, 1991
Dealings to commence on	Thursday, 7th November, 1991

## DIRECTORS

The Directors of the Company are: Rodney Leach (Chairman), John Barton (Group Chief Executive), George Brown (USA), David Corben, Nicholas Cook, Michael Gribbin, Dennis Guy (Australia), Martin Wakeley, The Rt. Hon. David Howell, MP (non-executive), Jeffrey Keil (USA) (non-executive), Simon Kewrick (non-executive), Sir Charles Powell (non-executive) and Robin Singer (non-executive).

The Group's retail operations in the United Kingdom and Asia have made good progress in expanding their business, although profits in the United States and Australia have been held back, principally by weak markets and depressed regional economies.

## PROFIT FORECAST

The Directors forecast that, in the absence of unforeseen circumstances and on the bases and principal assumptions set out in Information Relating to the Profit Forecast in Part 2 of the Listing Particulars, the Group's consolidated profit on ordinary activities before taxation for the year ending 31st December, 1991 will be not less than £19.7 million. Based on this forecast, the Directors expect prospective earnings per Share for this year to be not less than 13.5p per Share.

## DIVIDENDS

Based on the profit forecast and in the absence of unforeseen circumstances, the Directors expect to recommend a final dividend for the year ending 31st December, 1991 of 5.0p per Share (net), payable in May 1992. If the Shares had been listed on the London Stock Exchange throughout the year ending 31st December, 1991, the Directors would have expected to recommend dividends totalling 7.5p per Share (net). At the Offer price, such dividends would represent a gross yield of 5.1 per cent., covered 1.8 times by prospective earnings per Share of 13.5p for the year ending 31st December, 1991.

## EUROPEAN ACQUISITION

On 21st October, 1991, the Company issued Shares, amounting to 6.7 per cent. of its enlarged issued share capital, in order to acquire a 27 per cent. interest in SIACI, a major French retail and wholesale insurance broker, listed on the Second Marché of the Paris Stock Exchange. SIACI provides insurance broking services to a broad range of clients in France and has operations in other European countries including Spain and Switzerland, as well as in Africa.

## PROSPECTS

The Directors believe that there is considerable potential for continued growth, both organically and by acquisition. In addition, the Directors consider that JIB, which is predominantly remunerated by way of commission, would benefit from any upturn in rates. The Directors therefore look forward with enthusiasm and confidence to the future of the Group.

## STAMP DUTY AND STAMP DUTY RESERVE TAX

The application lists will open at 10.00 a.m. on 31st October, 1991 and will close as soon thereafter as Placings may after consultation with the Company and the Selling Shareholder determine. The basis on which applications have been accepted will be announced as soon as possible after the application lists close. It is expected that definitive share certificates will be posted to successful applicants on 9th November, 1991. Dealings in the Shares are expected to commence on 7th November, 1991. Dealings prior to receipt of share certificates will be a risk of applicants. A person so dealing must recognise the risk that an application may not have been accepted to the extent anticipated or at all.

The Selling Shareholder has agreed to pay any stamp duty payable at a rate not exceeding 5p per £100 (or part thereof) in respect of the transfer of the Shares to purchasers of the Shares under the Offer. However, this will not apply to any charge to stamp duty under Sections 67 or 70 of the Finance Act 1963 (which, broadly, apply where the applicant is, or is a nominee for, a person whose business is, or includes, the provision of clearance services for the purchase or sale of chargeable securities). The above statements are intended as a general guide to the current position. Any person who is in any doubt as to his position should consult an appropriate professional adviser.

## PERSONAL EQUITY PLANS (PEPs)

A PEP enables returns from shares held within such a scheme on behalf of qualifying individuals to be completely free of income and capital gains tax (although any losses resulting from investments within a PEP are not allowable for capital gains tax purposes). All tax credits on dividends from shares in a PEP can be reclaimed and may be reinvested or distributed.

The maximum amount a qualifying individual can invest in a PEP in each tax year is currently £2,000. In the case of a married couple, each spouse is treated separately, so a couple can invest in total a maximum of £2,000 in each tax year. Subject to this limit, a PEP manager may acquire Shares under the Offer for the benefit of an individual under the individual may apply personally in the Offer and if the application is successful, transfer those Shares to the PEP manager within 45 days of allocation. To transfer the Shares into a PEP, the Shares must be registered in your own name, not in joint names or the name of a broker, nominee or company.

The information contained in this document on PEPs is based upon the law and practice currently in force and is subject to change.

Any person who is in any doubt as to his position should consult an appropriate professional adviser.







THE TIMES THURSDAY OCTOBER 24 1991

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# MONEY MARKETS

...all rates based with 1985 was same at 90.3 (day's range 90.2-90.3).

## D RATES

1 month	3 month
5 1/8-5p	1 1/4-1p
8-8p	22-27p
1 1/8-1 1/2p	3 1/8-2 1/2p
9-9p	15-4p
5-5p	80-190p
20-20p	70-70p
per day	4-4p
41-41p	0.79-0.71p
70-70p	2 1/2-2 1/2p
1 1/8-1 1/2p	1 1/4-1 1/2p
9-9p	2 1/2-2 1/2p
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9-9p	2 1/2-2 1/2p
5-5p	2 1/

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071-481 4481

## ACCOUNTANCY &amp; FINANCE

071-481 9313  
071-782 7828

## Financial Analyst

Our client, part of a US group, is an industry leader in the manufacture of automobile components operating in the UK and Continental Europe.

WEST  
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Closing date: 7th November, 1991.  
Interview date: 14th November, 1991.

Application form and job description may be obtained from The Personnel Department, University College Hospital, Gower Street, London, WC1E 6AU. Tel: 071-380 9699 (24 hour ansaphone).



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# Aerospace achievements given their due

In 125 years the society has grown from a few enthusiasts to a diverse, expert group, Harvey Elliott says

The Royal Aeronautical Society, this year celebrating its 125th anniversary, is the largest multi-disciplinary body in Britain. With more than 20,000 members, it is a focus for those professionally involved in aerospace.

The aim since 1866 has been to expand the knowledge of aviation. Originally only those who believed in heavier-than-air flight were involved. Today men and women involved in mechanical and electrical engineering, avionics, systems engineering, materials technology and the technology needed in deepest space are members. Also involved are pilots, aviation doctors, journalists, lawyers, managers and theoreticians of every aspect of flying.

Ron Kennett, the director of the society, says: "We liaise with a whole spectrum of organisations to maintain awareness of the society's difficulties and accomplishments. Too often we as a nation fail to give adequate recognition to such key issues as the export success of our aircraft, engine and equipment manufacturers."

"We fail to recognise, too, the importance of developments such as the European Fighter Aircraft to a military manufacturing base. The commercial applications of space technologies, sustaining our civil aircraft design and manufacturing involvement in such things as Airbus and regional airliners, are also crucial."

"We must not fail, either, to recognise the importance of government support in negotiating a fairer basis on which our airlines can compete internationally."

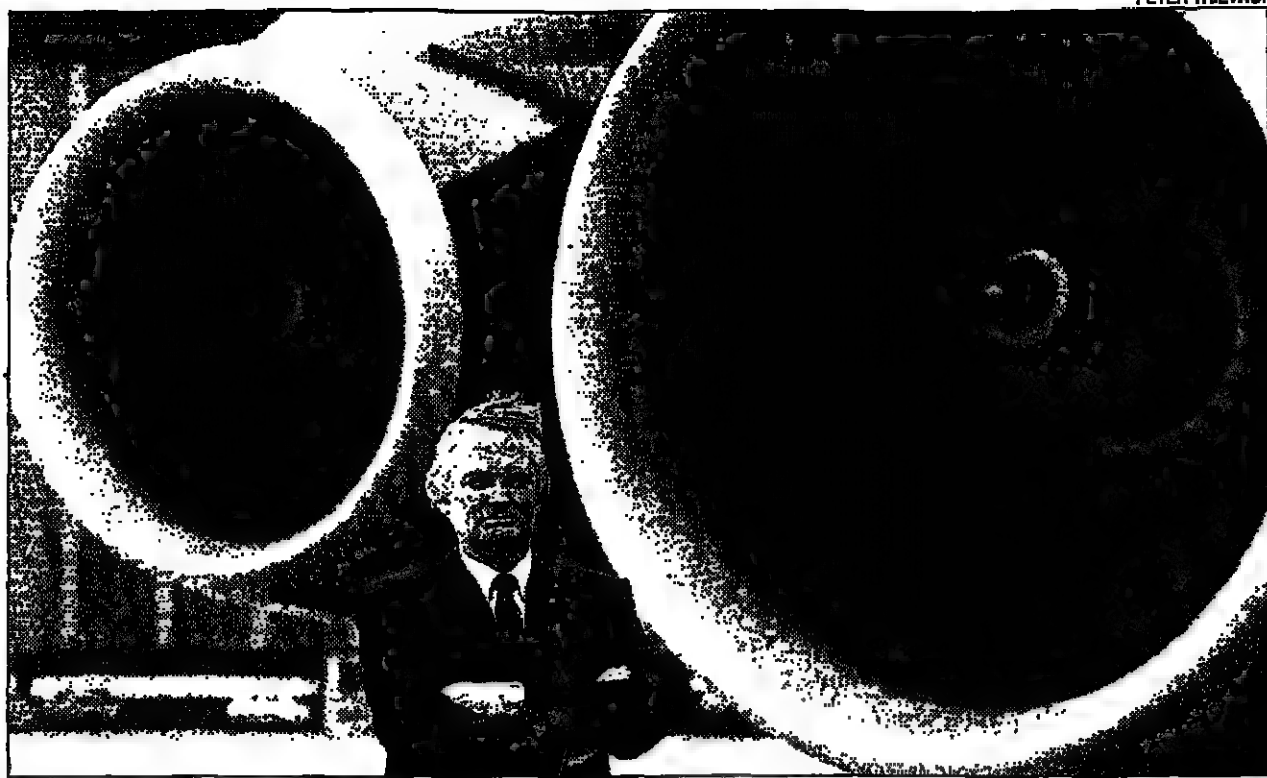
Companies such as British Aerospace, Rolls-Royce and British Airways have undergone significant changes in recent years and face new challenges because of the decline in government business. Mr Kennett says: "It is all too easy for the British public and the government to forget that they still need to be supported and encouraged if they are to build on their successes."

THE SOCIETY sets academic, training and conduct standards for all levels of membership and is able to nominate individuals to the Chartered Engineering Council and to all other stages and sections of the Engineering Council register, making it one of the few chartered institutions who can provide internationally registered qualifications.

In the society's headquarters at Hamilton Place, London, there is the finest collection of books on aviation in the world as well as periodicals, technical reports and specialist photographs and slides.

Lectures regularly take place in the theatre with the latest audio-visual equipment and sophisticated computer data projector, while meetings enable speakers from around the world to stimulate debate and disseminate the latest information on all subjects related to aerospace.

The rooms reflect Britain's aviation history by being named after such former members as Handley Page, De Havilland, Hawker, Brabazon and Sopwith. The society publishes a regular journal of academic papers, minutes of conferences and seminars and a monthly digest of news from the whole industry.



Jet set: Ron Kennett, director of the Royal Aeronautical Society, next to the engines of a 747 400 series at Heathrow

## THOSE WHO CAN JOIN THE SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIP of the Royal Aeronautical Society is aimed at anyone involved in or interested in aerospace and is open to engineers and other aerospace professionals. There are six basic grades of member, which, in order of seniority, are:

- **Fellow:** those who have had long experience of high quality and have achieved a position of high responsibility.
- **Member:** who must be at least 25 years old, with an honours degree and two years in a position of responsibility. Some members may be admitted if they do not have a degree but have at least 15 years' experience in the industry and held a position of responsibility for seven years.
- **Associate member:** must be at least 23 years old and hold professional qualifications equivalent to BTEC HNC and at least three years experience in the business.
- **Technician:** lower level of technical qualifications required but must have at least two years' practical training and one year experience.
- **Graduate:** those with the qualifications but without the experience. Must be employed in the industry and between 21 and 32 years old.
- **Associate:** People not employed in aeronautics or without the relevant qualifications but who want to be involved with the society.
- **Student:** Young people between the ages of 16 and 26 intending joining the profession but as yet unqualified.
- The society awards medals and awards for those making outstanding contributions and, through its education committee, grants and prizes.
- The society has local organisations in Australia, France, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Pakistan, South Africa, Zimbabwe and Cyprus.

## Making the Wright moves into history

The dreams of heavier-than-air flight devotees came true in 1903. Every climb and loop since then has been recorded

Aerology, the study of the science of the atmosphere, has long since dropped from common usage. But in 1865 it was considered an essential basic tool in learning about the new, and potentially far more exciting, science of aeronautics (Harvey Elliott writes).

Theorists had for years produced drawings of machines capable of floating in the atmosphere and many believed that before long mechanical means could be found of allowing them to ascend and descend at will.

Fred Brearey and James Glaisher, two such devotees of mechanical flight, were so enthused by the idea that after a meeting of the British Association they issued a circular to all members urging that a society be formed "to foster and develop the science of aeronautics". They were not the first to suggest such a gathering. Sir George Cayley had tried since 1815 to interest

anyone who would listen in the setting up of a society to study "aerial navigation".

When Glaisher and Brearey made their move, they found a ready ally in the eighth Duke of Argyll. Six people attended a meeting, held over afternoon tea on Campden Hill, north London, to draw up a statement for the formation of The Aeronautical Society of Great Britain. The first powered, controlled flight — by the Wright brothers — was 37 years away.

From the very beginning the standard of debate and lectures was of a high calibre. The first public meeting in June 1866, for example, revolved around a lecture by F.W. Wenham — "Aerial locomotion and the laws by which heavy bodies are impelled through air and sustained" —

and which is still regarded as the classic description of the theory and practice of mechanical flight.

The society was determined to concentrate on heavier-than-air flight rather than on balloons, kites and birds, and an exhibition was held at Crystal Palace which attracted 77 entries.

The first wind tunnel was described in the annual report of 1870 and in 1886 a Captain Griffiths gave a paper on "Jet propulsion for aeronautical purposes". Members were difficult to find and by 1897 there were only 40, although they included such luminaries as Lord Baden-Powell, Sir Hiram Maxim, Lawrence Hargrave and Graham Bell.

When in 1903 the Wright brothers achieved what had so long been theorised over, they

sent a detailed report to the society's journal. Five years later they were awarded the society's first gold medal. The first world war and the attendant rise in interest in the work of the aeroplane led to a surge in membership and by 1919 it had passed 1,000.

However, after the war, interest waned and the aeroplane was seen as a potentially dangerous and expensive pastime. The Society, however, pressed on, introducing examinations to produce associates and fellows who could show that they had a real and practical knowledge of aeronautics.

As the second world war loomed the government also realised the society's importance and set up secret meetings at which members of

the RAF and Fleet Air Arm discussed with the aircraft industry and individual engineers their needs and operational experience.

An advisory committee was set up to advise ministers of aircraft production while technical committees studied detailed papers on skin structures and aerodynamics.

The Aeronautical Society of Great Britain had been accorded the title "Royal" by HM King George V in June 1918 but it did not receive its full Royal Charter until King George VI granted it in 1949.

After the war the society continued to expand with branches being opened overseas, conferences with the American Institute of the Aeronautical Sciences, and courses on air transport.

Built by Adams in 1805, the headquarters at 4 Hamilton Place, London, has been lived in variously over the years by the Earl of Lucan, the Duke of Wellington and Lord Granville. The lease runs until 2059 during which time the members of the Royal Aeronautical Society will have recorded every climb and loop of developments in the science of aerology.

## RICARDO INTERNATIONAL CONSOLIDATES AEROSPACE BUSINESS

SAC Technology Ltd., Ricardo International plc's aerospace division, will be renamed Ricardo Aerospace from January 1992.

This follows Ricardo's recent acquisition of the gas turbine development company ATD and the consolidation of Ricardo's aircraft business.

Mike Wilson, Ricardo Aerospace Chairman, commented: "The divisional name change enables us to bring together the company's Aircraft and Gas Turbine Divisions. It also reflects more accurately our growing commitment to the worldwide aerospace industry."

Aerospace represents

over 40% of the overall Ricardo International business with 50% of the current activity in the export market.

Among current major design and engineering programmes supported by the company's Aircraft Division are all the Airbus variants, the European Fighter Aircraft, Dornier 328 and the Boeing 767 engine nacelles. The Gas Turbine Division supports a number of engine programmes including the Rolls-Royce Trent, BMW/Rolls-Royce BM700.

Ricardo Aerospace Bristol, UK Fax: 0454 273389



## Launching pad for crucial talks

The society works for the advancement of aerospace in Britain and Europe

AEROSPACE is not an industry entered into by accident. The people in it are generally seduced by its glamour and spurred on by a lifelong enthusiasm.

Nevertheless, the task of being a co-ordinating body to

a diversity of industries is not easily achieved. The Royal Aeronautical Society, while seeing the sciences and industries it supports as international and thus needing encouragement in a broad context, is a worker for the advancement of the British aerospace industry and — progressively — the European. The society, for example, talks of the "cruciality" of the launch of the European Fighter Aircraft programme to the British military aircraft manufacturing base.

Investment in space technologies is seen as one area of concern for the British, especially given the part which satellite communications and satellite navigation are going to play in air traffic control systems.

Similarly there is concern about supersonic transport, national research and development policy, as well as the media and telecommunications industry closing their radio frequencies on bands until now reserved for aircraft and to the point where safety is threatened.

Airline safety may statistically be improving, but air travel is expected to double in a decade, so the visible numbers of air accidents will increase unless safety standards improve even faster.

Areas of concern which the society's seminars and workshops have under review are the effect of cockpit computerisation on the pilot and on the reliability of the aircraft systems and systems for holding back the spread of cabin fires to allow for evacuation.

The society encourages work at all levels, from the concentrated academics of the design engineer to the precise aerobatics of the test pilot; from co-ordinating studies for the improvement of anti-terrorist security measures to the encouragement of standardisation in equipment and techniques, as Europe moves towards a co-ordinated air traffic control system.

For all these subjects and countless more, the Royal Aeronautical Society is one of the world's few great aerospace forums.

DAVID LEARMOUNT

● The author is the features editor of Flight International

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Farr-Jones and Campese recovering well

# Australians call in Coker to give their lineout a lift

By DAVID HANDS  
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THE extent to which Australia have missed Tim Gavin was underlined yet again yesterday when the team was named to play New Zealand in the World Cup semi-final in Dublin on Sunday. Troy Coker has been included at No. 8, the third player to occupy the position for them during this tournament.

Gavin, an outstanding performer during the summer until damaged knee ligaments removed him from the World Cup squad, was replaced by Coker when the same two countries met in Auckland in August. Indeed, Sunday's XV is the same as the one that lost that match 6-3, having a fortnight earlier beaten New Zealand 21-12 in Sydney, with Gavin's assistance.

Bob Dwyer, the Australian coach, admitted he was uncertain over who might prove the best replacement at No. 8 before the World Cup began.



In the event, he has experimented with John Eales in the first two games and Willie O'Flaherty in the next two. Now Coker gets his chance. O'Flaherty reverts to the blind-side flank, where he did such damage against England in Sydney in July, and the unlucky player to be dropped is Jeff Miller.

That is the only change from the side that squeaked home 19-18 against Ireland in last Sunday's quarter-final, and comes about through Dwyer's desire to offer a greater lineout presence. "It was a difficult decision," he

said, "but we felt we could let New Zealand control the game easily if we didn't do something about the back of our lineout, with them having Alan Whetton and Zinzan Brooke at the back of theirs."

The Australians also felt that Ireland challenged quite successfully at shortened lineouts (though it was an area they dominated 22-12, according to the official statistics) and will be relieved that they do not have to face the additional threat of Michael Jones, whose religious beliefs will keep him out.

The selection of Coker, who played lock for Harlequins last season, also gives them extra poundage in the scrums; he is the second biggest player in the party. Any difficulties he encountered in Auckland may be accounted for by the extremely wet surface. His two games in the tournament, however, have been at lock, against Argentina and Western Samoa.

The Australian management is far happier with the fitness of Nick Farr-Jones, the captain and scrum half, and David Campese, the mercurial wing. Farr-Jones trained yesterday, showing no ill-effects from the knee which he damaged against the Samoans and which forced him off against the Irish. Campese, suffering from wear and tear to an ankle ligament, is undergoing lighter training.

As an Australian spokesman said, Campese's presence is not so necessary to the mechanics of the team. He might have added that neither Campese nor his colleagues know where on the field the wing will turn up next, though the Irish will offer a suggestion or two.

AUSTRALIA: M. Horne, R. Egan, J. Little, T. Hand, D. Campese, M. Lymington, P. Jones, J. Coker, A. Day, P. Kearney, E. McFarlane, V. O'Flaherty, R. Mitchell, J. Eales, S. Pollock, T. Coker.



High flyer: Dooley soars above the rest in England's training. Report, page 40

## GOLF

## Lyle back in the old routine for final showdown

From MITCHELL PLATT  
GOLF CORRESPONDENT  
IN SOTOGRADE

SANDY Lyle shrugged his shoulders, smiled and looked ahead to the Volvo Masters which starts here today on the Valderrama course. Severiano Ballesteros stayed in bed; Nick Faldo sought a cure for his putting problems; Ian Woosnam was not to be seen.

It is incredible what a difference a year can make. Lyle, sentenced to playing a supporting role for so long, is centre-stage again. His victory in the BMW International Open propelled him back into the spotlight three years after his last win.

Even so, Lyle is well aware that he must maintain that form if he is to continue his resurgence against the likes of Ballesteros and Faldo here this week. Woosnam is the only one of the top 53 in the Volvo order of merit not present this week when the curtain officially falls on the 1991 European tour.

Woosnam's absence is regrettable. He is the No. 1 player in the world and his decision to withdraw from this event, following a poor performance at Wentworth last week, could have repercussions.

Mel Pyatt, a director of the Volvo Tour, said: "We are extremely disappointed that Ian is not playing this week and I think as a company we will seek in the future for it to be compulsory for players to compete in the Volvo Masters unless they possess a valid doctor's certificate."

Ballesteros may be compelled to withdraw this morning on the advice of Doctor Lopez Saavedra, whose recommendation it was that the Spaniard should remain in bed yesterday. Ballesteros has a high temperature. But he will be seen on the first tee because his

Hole	Yds	Par	Hole	Yds	Par
1	387	4	10	404	4
2	410	4	11	291	3
3	171	3	12	219	4
4	595	5	13	407	4
5	595	5	14	369	4
6	194	3	15	228	3
7	595	5	16	424	4
8	346	4	17	269	5
9	454	4	18	456	4

Our 3,336 26 In 3,615 36  
Total yardage: 6,951 Par: 71

opening drive will entitle him to a bonus of £100,000 as the winner of the 1991 Volvo order of merit.

If Ballesteros wins the tournament he will, with the first prize of £100,000 in addition to the bonus, set a European record, with official winnings of £619,603.67.

Faldo continues to make more money off the course than Ballesteros, although his form on the greens is giving him cause for concern.

In contrast, Lyle is back in the old routine again with a little help from a book given to him by Kelly Leadbetter, the wife of David Leadbetter, Faldo's teacher.

"The book is called *Be Happy* and I carry it around with me like a bible," Lyle said. "I pick out little things from it which make me smile and keep me calm. It helps me to stay positive rather than dwell on bad things."

"I don't know whether the three years I went without winning was a mental thing, but I did get jaded for a while. I lost my appetite to play golf. The bubble burst; the brain gave up. You could call it burnout if you want. And you could say that the likes of Ian Woosnam and Curtis Strange are going through the same thing now. All I know is that my desire now is greater than it has been for three years."

## Reid in with a chance

Causes - At the end of October, as the wind at home turns chill and the nights draw in, nothing could be finer than to decamp to the shores of the Mediterranean, as the women's European tour has done this week (Patricia Davies writes).

The players and officials are soaking up the sun at Cannes Mandelieu, where the Longines Classic, the deciding tournament of the season, starts today.

Despite the sparkling surroundings, there is serious work to be done. The Woolmark order of merit will be decided here, with Corinne Dibnah, of Australia, a fraction over £2,100 ahead of Helen Alfredsson, the Swede who has just qualified to play on the US tour next year.

The first prize is a substantial £16,500, which means that Dale Reid, No. 1 in 1984 and 1987, third on the list, has the chance to become the first player to top the heap three times.

Jim Payne shot a 70, two under par, over the Mediterranean course, near Valencia, yesterday, to keep alive his hopes of winning a place on the PGA European Tour.

## BASEBALL

## Lemke's key hit puts Braves back in Series

By ROBERT KIRLEY

MARK Lemke hit a run-scoring single with two out in the twelfth inning on Tuesday night to give the Atlanta Braves a 5-4 home win over the Minnesota Twins in game three of the World Series. The Braves had lost the first two, played in Minneapolis.

The game lasted four hours and four minutes, the longest in a World Series since 1977. Forty-two players were used, including a record 23 by the Twins.

David Justice started the winning rally with a one-out single off the relief pitcher, Rick Aguilera. After an infield pop-out, Justice stole second base and Greg Olson walked. Lemke then lashed a single to left, which slid across the plate to

beat the throw from Dan Gladden. Minnesota had nearly scored in their half of the twelfth when they loaded the bases. Aguilera, the losing pitcher, fled in game three of the World Series. The Braves had lost the first two, played in Minneapolis.

Steve Avery, the splendid Atlanta starter, struck out five batters and walked none over seven-plus innings. He retired with a 4-2 lead but Minnesota made it 4-4 in the eighth on Chili Davis's pinch-hit home run off Alejandro Peña.

RESULTS: Game three: Atlanta Braves 5, Minnesota Twins 4 (12 innings). Minnesota lead best-of-seven series 2-1. Game four: Atlanta Braves 5, Minnesota Twins 4 (9 innings). Game five: Atlanta Braves 5, Minnesota Twins 4 (9 innings). Game six: Atlanta Braves 5, Minnesota Twins 4 (9 innings). Game seven: Atlanta Braves 5, Minnesota Twins 4 (9 innings).

## All Blacks worried by second-row doubts

By PETER BILLS

GARY Whetton and Ian Jones, the first-choice second-row forwards for New Zealand, were unable to take part in the All Blacks' training session in Dublin yesterday, four days before the World Cup semi-final with Australia.

Jones, the chief New Zealand lineout jumper, felt a strain in his upper thigh as he warmed up. He missed the session and had ice packs applied to the thigh when he returned to the team's hotel. Whetton, the captain, missed the session because of a heavy cold.

Alex Wyllie, the All Black coach, said: "We thought it safer to stop Ian taking any part in the

session. At this stage we would hope he will have time to get right. But he will have more treatment in the next 24 hours."

Terry Wright, the full back who missed the quarter-final with Canada because of a pulled hamstring, did not train yesterday, but Shayne Philpott, his understudy, who had a similar injury, took a full part in the session. Kieran Crowley, who was called up as emergency cover, is also available.

Wyllie expressed no great surprise at Troy Coker's return to the Australian back row. "They have often gone for height in that department in recent times," he said.

## Referees are raising the tone

REFEREES in the Rugby World Cup have been subject to criticism, most of which should, by rights, be directed at the International Rugby Football Board, which frames the laws of the game. Perhaps a word in defence of the maligned referees may be appropriate.

Television commentary teams, as I have experienced first hand, have been well served by the information which referees have fed to them by microphone during a match. The viewers, consequently, have similarly benefited.

In the past, the commentator often has been as puzzled as the next man. He passed on an opinion and, rugby being the flawed game it is, was open to conjecture as the armchair viewer. The commentator should enhance coverage by supplying information from which the viewer can benefit.

While some referees have had experience of wearing a microphone in Australia, the

Gerald Davies comes to the defence of the World Cup's men in the middle

surprise is how easily and warmly they have taken to it in the World Cup. They believe it benefits the game.

To rebut the view of the referee as a killjoy, there is a surprising amount of casual chat between official and player during a match. There is a friendly nature, at least to begin with, in their relations. This may or may not be one of encouragement. A stiff talking-to, when it comes, seems all the more effective as a result.

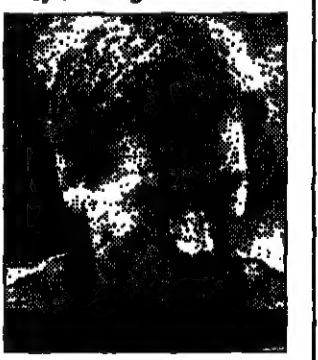
The referees' use of the microphone has been uniformly good, particularly by Jim Fleming, Patrick Robin, David Bishop and Derek Bevan. This is only an extension of what referees do naturally. Robin, a Frenchman, conducted matters fluently in English and, after the quarter-final in Paris, anyone

harbouring doubts about Bishop would have them dispelled by listening in to the excellence of his control. As to Henry Kelly's suggestion this week to ITV to allow referees to be heard by viewers, the referees would be unhappy. They do not favour American football's approach, where commentators are relayed by loudspeaker. Nor are they prepared to follow the example of South Africa, where headsets can be hired at the ground. That would be an additional pressure they are not prepared to accept.

Furthermore, and most important, legal cases have increased in recent years. In Australia four years ago, a Welsh referee, the municipal authorities, who owned the park where the match took place, and the rugby administrators, under whose jurisdiction it was played, were held responsible for a severe spinal injury to a player.

With such a case in mind, the referees fear that they might be accused of negligence. In warning teams about the continuous collapsing of the scrum, for instance, and from which an injury might ultimately result, the referee's own words, having gone over the air, might be picked up and used against him in a legal context.

For the moment the referees are delighted with the success of the step they have taken in this World Cup. They are wary of taking another.



Bishop: excellence

## TV interest grows in tournament

By PETER BILLS

THE pool match between Wales against Argentina attracted an ITV television audience of 6.7 million, the largest viewing figure for the Rugby World Cup to date. Figures released yesterday showed that interest in the competition had increased significantly from the first week.

The France v Canada pool match, the second half of which was shown live, attracted a remarkably high figure of 5.4 million and Wales's final match, against Australia at Cardiff on Saturday, October 12, was watched by 4.6 million. Wales-Argentina game, which the Welsh needed to win to retain a chance of qualifying for the knockout stages, was prime-time viewing, 8 o'clock on a Wednesday night.

The pool match between New Zealand and United States, which kicked off at 1 o'clock in midweek at Gloucester, drew the lowest total in the competition to date, 1.7 million.

at ITV at the Wales-Argentina match. Gary Double, publicity director for ITV's Rugby World Cup, said: "That is a good figure and we are very pleased. The BBC only got six million for the England v France grand slam game last March. They don't normally get seven million for international matches. We are pretty pleased with all these figures, especially as the early forecasts for the quarter-finals are even better."

Double said that the figures had increased with the importance of the matches. The Wales-Argentina game, which the Welsh needed to win to retain a chance of qualifying for the knockout stages, was prime-time viewing, 8 o'clock on a Wednesday night.

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## Queue up for quick sumo test

By JOHN GOODBODY

AN EXHIBITION about the science and the future of sport, planned for next April, will encourage members of the public to compare their prowess with world champions while simultaneously learning about the human body and its physical potential.

"Our aim is to exhilarate and educate," Mark Jeffery, said. Jeffery is the managing director of Signature, which will announce details today of the venues throughout Britain where it will be mounted after its four-month opening in London.

Among the 40 different units, which will be open to the public at the Science of Sport exhibition, will be a simulated sprint against Linford Christie over 30 metres. As a visitor leaves the blocks, he will be aware of a lighted, life-size figure of Christie advancing ahead of him on the adjacent wall - at the speed he ran when setting the European 100 metres record in Tokyo.

In motor racing, people will be tested for their reactions in an imaginary start to a grand prix. They can also ride a surf board, which rocks as the individual tries to stay upright for as long as possible.

There will also be models of crouching sumo wrestlers, which people will have to try push over and so demonstrate the relevance of a low centre of gravity.

## The two pillars of wisdom which underpin Akabusi

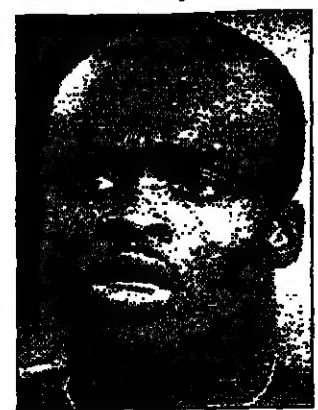
By DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

KRIS Akabusi's wife, Monika, on the subject of her husband's religious beliefs: "I think he has fallen for one big fairy tale. That may or may not be so, but one thing is certain: the story of Akabusi's life reads like one."

As a fostered child, he was moved from one home to another. Unhappy days? Mostly they were. At one home he was made to drink urine as a punishment. Now he drinks from the champion's chalice. Next month he is to be honoured as Britain's male athlete of the year.

Even before Akabusi grabbed the gold medal in the 4 x 400 metres relay in Tokyo, Roger Black urged that, if the vote between them was close, he would want Akabusi to receive the honour. Black's appreciation of the help Akabusi gave him in his formative years is not forgotten and the magnitude of his achievements against a backdrop of social disadvantage is much admired.

Apparently unloved as a child, Akabusi is much loved now, by public and fellow athletes. His parents left him, aged four, to be brought up in England while they lived in Nigeria, and he was 16 before his mother came to visit him. Too late. "I didn't feel any emotion or bond with this woman whom I knew to be my mother," Akabusi says in his book, *Kris Akabusi On Track*.



Akabusi: inner strength

Just when he and his brother, Riba, had found a home they liked, the financial support from his parents ceased. An uncle in England put them on a train to King's Cross to leave them at the mercy of the local police. They spent the next eight years in a children's home.

Other traumas were to visit Akabusi later in his life. Riba, back in Nigeria, was suffering from mental illness, and was in a hospital where he was inhumanely treated. He wrote in desperation to Kris, begging him to fly him back to London. Akabusi had just won an Olympic relay silver medal and knew nothing of his brother's plight. Riba's father was persuaded to pay and he came to live in Britain with Kris and Monika.

In 1982, because his wife had a medical problem, Akabusi became a test-tube father, the first at the university clinic in Berlin. In an attempt three years later to have children by normal procedures, twins were stillborn to Monika.

Through these and various other battles Akabusi has used the Army and his religion to prop him up. The Army gave him security and time off to train and compete, and his religion, he says, provided him with an inner strength.

□ Kris Akabusi *On Track*, published by Lion Publishing, £12.99.

## Full-house sign for W Indies

By LOUISE TAYLOR

THE WEST Indies squad arrives on Monday for a three-match series against England, concluding on November 9. A capacity 8,000 crowd is expected at Wembley Arena for the first fixture, on November 2. Gateshead leisure centre hosts the second on November 6, with the third taking place at Ponds Forge International sports centre in Sheffield.

Ranked fourth in the world, England can expect a stern test from the might of the Caribbean. The tall and flamboyant West Indies squad includes players from Antigua, Barbados, Jamaica, St Vincent and Trinidad.

Kendra Lowe, the England and Bedfordshire captain, aged 28 and with 80 international caps, said: "The scene is set for a really exciting series. The matches are sure to be great to play in and great to watch."

"The England squad has had a busy 1991 with the world championships held in Australia in July, but we are fit and ready to take them on. We are looking forward to our first win at Wembley for some years and we are determined to do it on November 2."

As a supplement to the three full internationals, the West Indies will play England Under-21 in Stourbridge, on November 4, in addition to a series of fixtures against regional sides.

## NETBALL

## British favourites falter

From BARRY PICKTHILL IN BERMUDA

EDDIE Warden Owen and his British crew suffered mixed fortunes during the opening round-robin series for the world championship here yesterday.

The British crew had a handsome win over Chris Dickson, ranked No. 1, but then faltered in the match against Russell Coutts, seeded No. 2. The crew also went down to the Swedish *Sailing* sailor, Magnus Holmberg, which left Warden Owen trailing in fifth place behind an unbeaten Coutts, Peter Isler, of the United States, Dickson and Marc Bouet, of France, who were all tied with a 2-1 scoreline.

In their first race of the day, Warden Owen won the favoured starboard end of the line from Dickson, and as they came together again 200 yards up the first beat, were level pegging with their Japanese America's Cup crew rivals.

Dickson tacked to leeward of the British yacht, then forced Warden Owen to tack away into a headwind shift. That gave Dickson the advantage at the weather mark, but on the second

## YACHTING

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## SNOOKER

## Important milestone for Finbow

DAVE Finbow, whose involvement in the Rothmans grand prix began on May 23 in a pre-qualifying competition at Bolton, recorded his tenth victory in the event to reach the quarter-finals at the Hexagon Theatre, Reading, yesterday (Philip Yates writes).

Finbow, aged 23, from Worcester, showed a rock solid temperament under the alien glare of television lights to beat Mark Bennett, runner-up in this year's Welsh professional championship, by 5-4 after he had trailed 4-3. A quarter-final place in the first domestic world

ranking tournament of the season, is worth £10,000 to Finbow - ten times his previous best remuneration.

The three ranking points he has gained will earn him exemption from next season's pre-qualifying jungle.

Finbow, who jarred his back in the early stages of trying to stretch for an awkward shot, recovered from a 1-3 interval deficit to level at 3-3 only for Bennett to move ahead again with a break of 93, the highest of the match, in the seventh frame. A composed 40 clearance to pink in the next, after Bennett

had attempted an unwise plant, saw Finbow level.

He recovered from 0-34 in the deciding frame with a run of 49 and, on his second attempt, he potted the brown to seal a match against either Steve Davis or Alain Robidoux.

Terry Griffiths, who offered Finbow some fatherly words of encouragement before the match, also progressed into the quarter-finals with a surprisingly comfortable 5-2 win over Steve James, the seventh seed.

RESULTS: Snooker: D. Finbow (Eng) 5-4 M. Bennett (Wales); T. Griffiths (Wales) 5-2 S. James (Eng); S. Davis (Wales) 5-4 A. Robidoux (Wales).

## Frustrated blame for Coker

FROM ROSS  
THE extent to which Australia have missed Tim Gavin was underlined yet again yesterday when the team was named to play New Zealand in the World Cup semi-final in Dublin on Sunday. Troy Coker has been included at No. 8, the third player to occupy the position for them during this tournament.

Gavin, an outstanding performer during the summer until damaged knee ligaments removed him from the World Cup squad, was replaced by Coker when the same two countries met in Auckland in August. Indeed, Sunday's XV is the same as the one that lost that match 6-3, having a fortnight earlier beaten New Zealand 21-12 in Sydney, with Gavin's assistance.

Bob Dwyer, the Australian coach, admitted he was uncertain over who might prove the best replacement at No. 8 before the World Cup began.

In the event, he has experimented with John Eales in the first two games and Willie O'Flaherty in the next two. Now Coker gets his chance. O'Flaherty reverts to the blind-side flank, where he did such damage against England in Sydney in July, and the unlucky player to be dropped is Jeff Miller.

That is the only change from the side that squeaked home 19-18 against Ireland in last Sunday's quarter-final, and comes about through Dwyer's desire to offer a greater lineout presence. "It was a difficult decision," he

said, "but we felt we could let New Zealand control the game easily if we didn't do something about the back of our lineout, with them having Alan Whetton and Zinzan Brooke at the back of theirs."

The Australians also felt that Ireland challenged quite successfully at shortened lineouts (though it was an area they dominated 22-12, according to the official statistics) and will be relieved that they do not have to face the additional threat of Michael Jones, whose religious beliefs will keep him out.

The selection of Coker, who played lock for Harlequins last season, also gives them extra poundage in the scrums; he is the second biggest player in the party. Any difficulties he encountered in Auckland may be accounted for by the extremely wet surface. His two games in the tournament, however, have been at lock, against Argentina and Western Samoa.

The Australian management is far happier with the fitness of Nick Farr-Jones, the captain and scrum half, and David Campese, the mercurial wing. Farr-Jones trained yesterday, showing no ill-effects from the knee which he damaged against the Samoans and which forced him off against the Irish. Campese, suffering from wear and tear to an ankle ligament, is undergoing lighter training.

As an Australian spokesman said, Campese's presence is not so necessary to the mechanics of the team. He might have added that neither Campese nor his colleagues know where on the field the wing will turn up next, though the Irish will offer a suggestion or two.

AUSTRALIA: M. Horne, R. Egan, J. Little, T. Hand, D. Campese, M. Lymington, P. Jones, J. Coker, A. Day, P. Kearney, E. McFarlane, V. O'Flaherty, R. Mitchell, J. Eales, S. Pollock, T. Coker.

High flyer: Dooley soars above the rest in England's training. Report, page 40

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# South Africa get green light for World Cup

# ICC allows champagne to go flat

been prepared to take.

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**Referees' defended, page 38**

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